

Feb 22 1940
Pocahontas County: Chapter 4 and 5

Juanita S. Dickey
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Jan. 12, 1940

Part (a) Latter Part of question 2

Part (3-b) Handicrafts Developed through Necessity.

OCCUPATIONS BETWEEN 1810 - 1860.

The principal industry was of course farming, but because of a growing need for them, other small industries such as blacksmithing and milling were established in all sections of the county..

The first stores were at Huntersville, but after the building of the Staunton, Parkersburg Road through the upper part of the county, and the Marlinton to Lewisburg road in the lower part of the county in 1854-56 stores opened at Greenbank, Millpoint, and soon at other points.

Since there was so much blacksmith work to be done shops sprung up all over the county.

Henry Harper who lived on Knappa Creek, having moved there soon after 1812 to a 200 acre farm owned by his father Nicholas Harper, did much to promote industry in that section. He built the first tilt hammer in this region. This shop was carried on under his personal supervision. Ralph Wanless, George Hevener of Pandleton, and Anthony Lightner of Swago, and many others learned the trade with him, and were all good smiths. Other improvements made by him were: a tannery shop built by William Civey, and a saw mill built by Robert and John Irvin. At his suggestion William Civey sunk a tan yard at his home on Anthonys Creek.

Henry harper was one of the contractors for the Huntersville, Warm Springs Turnpike in 1838. But aside from all these things he went ahead with clearing land and developing his farm.

The Wanlesses - James, Stephen, Ralph and John were famous smiths in the upper part of the county. Aside from shoeing horses and repairing wagons they also made axes, hoes, shovels, plows bulltongues, brush hooks, scythes, mattocks, broad axes, froes, grubbing hoes, pot hooks, kettle bales, log chains, double and single trees, door hinges and latches.

William Cochran of Stony Creek built the first tilt hammer on Swago.

Joseph Barlow of Red Lick Mountain had a blacksmith shop, a tannery, made and repaired shoes, did carpenter and cabinet work.

Thomas Drinnon of near Marlins Bottom made shoes.

John Burgess was a carpenter and for many years made most of the coffins needed in lower Pocahontas.

William Bradshaw of Brown Creek operated a carding machine. The bales of rolls were fastened with black thorns which grew so plentiful in this section. John Galford, Jr. conducted a flourishing tannery at Huntersville.

Rev. John Waugh of Indian Draft was a skillful worker in metals. His speciality being hoes one of the most useful implements. He also excelled in tempering axes another implement of invaluable help to the pioneer.

John Logan of Top Alleghany was a skilled cabinet maker.

William Curry was a stone mason. After his marriage he went to Lewis County.

George W. Whiting and his son Ebenezer Whiting of Deep Mountain were skilled masons, plasterers, and brick layers. It is reported that the mortar they used would adhere so tenaciously that sometimes it had to be chipped from a brick. The smooth finish they gave plastering has not been excelled in our time with all our modern improvements.

William Mayse was one of the first blacksmiths at Millpoint, working in a shop built by Valentine Cackley.

Daniels Kerr who located here soon after the Revolutionary War on the upper end of the vast estate now owned by Uriah Hevener, established a mill, a saw mill, and a blacksmith shop on Little Back Creek branch of Deer Creek. His place became a center of industry for a wide region.

Joshua Kee who lived one mile below Marlinton could work in iron, stone and wood. His specialty was gunsmithing, a great service to the people as so much hunting was done.

John Kee specialized in wagon making.

Nathan Burgess, a gunsmith. Many of the old hunters of the early part of the century were supplied by him with rifles. Some of his rifles were used for military service during the Civil War. One of the best specimen of his workmanship was made for the late William McNeill of Buckeye. It was reputed to be one of the most accurate in aim and far reaching of any mountain rifles ever in the country.

(Part of this material was taken from History of Pocahontas County - Price. and part of it from old papers.)

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry. Date 3/10/41
Research Worker Samuel G Smith Date Research Taken Sometime back
Typist Samuel G Smith Date Typed 3/18/41
Source J. Luther McNeill, Marlinton, W. Va. Filed

Was holding for additional information but was
unable to rethit.



3/18/41 Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co

In 1888 and 1890 Andrew Wooddell of near Hray operated a circular mill on Laurel Creek and other parts of Pocahontas County, his first set was on Laurel Creek or the headwaters of Stony Creek, another set was at the John Adam place, and another set at Henry Shearers place, John Galford did most of the skidding and Auburn Friel was sawyer, the fireman was J. Luther McNeill now living at Marlinton, this timber was sawed for Peters and Gay and rafted to Ronceverte, W. Va. In 1890 James (Jim) White of Laurel Creek ~~bought~~ bought a circular mill from Sam Gay and Andrew Wooddell and went to Elk near Slaty Fork and sawed for Jacob Sharp and from there they moved across the creek to the Hite place then owned by Sharp and from there to the foot of Gauley Mountain near Slatyfork and in Dec. 90 moved back up Elk to the Henry Sharp place and sawed for a man by the name of Brown of Elkins, Sam Gay did the skidding and the lumber was taken to Valey Head in Randolph County and loaded there.

In 91 they moved to the head of Elk and sawed a set for George Hannah, Shell, and ~~Hugh~~ Hannah did the skidding, and from there they moved to Big Springs and sawed for Thomas Vandervert, also some for the Gatewood Brothers and from there they moved to Eläverlick and sawed a set for Jacob Beverage some of this lumber was sold locally but the greater part was rafted to Ronceverte. In 1892 they moved to Stony Bottom and sawed a set

age 1
Tacy ,one set for Patrick Weeks,and George McLaughlin and from here
they moved to the mouth of Leatherbark and sawed a set for James Wanles
where they sawed 400,000 this was logged by Bernard Hamrick of Cass.

During all of these operations Luther McNeill was fireman and
Wooddell did the sawing.

Information.J.Luther McNeill. Marlinton.W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry.

Date 3/13/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 3, 12, 13/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 3/13/41

Source P.C Curry. Marlinton. W. Va.

Date Filed _____

C.G McGuire. " "



741
In 1926 Preston C Curry and John C Haupt of Marlinton bought a circular mill from Gilbert Wilfong of near Buckeye on the river road and formed a partnership known as Curry And Haupt, they cut mine ties and lumber at Wilfongs and finished up and moved to Walter Hivelys on Thorny Creek and sawed a set and from there they ewnt to Austin Sharps near Frost and sawed a set, and from there they moved to J.C Harpers on Knapps Creek, and from there they bought timber from Elmer Moore and set the mill near James Reeds and upon completion of this set they sold the mill to Park McLaughlin but bought a new mill and moved it to Stephen Hole Run on the farm of T.S McNeel from whom they had bought a boundary of timber and upon completion moved to the farm of Carl G Beard of near Millpoint and cut a set there, and from there moved the mill to Porter Sharps and sawed a set there and from thee they moved to the foot of Elk Mountain and sawed a set on the Illis Sharp place and from here they moved to the C.G and Sallie McGuire farm on Elk this was in 1930 ~~XXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ 55,000 feet and from there they moved to the Birdie O Dilley farm and sawed 150,000 feet and bought 55,000 from John and Frankie Dumire and 5,000 feet was bought from William Gilmore, besides 130,000 that McGuire put in to this set from the McGuire farm, this timber was sawed for C.G McGuire and James Gibson and was cut and skidded by them, Williams & Pifer handled the lumber for McGuire and Gibson. From Elk Curry And Haupt moved their mill to Jacksons River in Va. and sawed for Burruss Land And Lumber Co. of Lynchburg Va. here they sawed 6 million feet and moved to Bolars Draft Va. & sawed 3 million.

Their next set was in W.Va. on Porter and Katie Sharps place here here they sawed 1300,000 for the Right Lumber Co. of Bristol Tenn. This was in 1932 and it was at this operation that Haupt died in 32. and W.W Harper of Buckhann-
er, this job was completed and they began operating under the name of Curry & Har-
sawed 4 million feet for The Wright Lumber Co. of Bristol Tenn, at this set
the timber from the Jacob and Jacob Sharp farms was sawed also logs from the

S.G Smith page # 2 of Curry And Harper.

C. Mullens farm on Laurel Creek, which was cut and skidded by Mullens.

Curry & Harper bought logs from Edwin Buzzard and from the M. L. Be-
ard farm on Williams River cut and skidded by Curry And Harper with horses
and a caterpillar tractor and it was at this set that the mill burned down
they finished this set and moved the new mill to Stamping Creek where it is
operating at the present time as they truck logs from all over the lower end
of Pocahontas and the upper end of Greenbrier Co. and so far they have sawed
near 4 million feet which is trucked to Marion and Pulaski Va, to Clarksburg,
Rainelle and to Elkins to the homestead, besides what goes to Mt. Ary. N.C. the
flooring, furniture and crating lumber goes to Clarksburg, W. Va.

The sawyers on these operations have been Bert Roberts and Joe McK-
enney, the lumber graders, J. R. Guthrie and Keith Wilt.

They have 6 trucks, 1 caterpillar tractor and 1 team of horses to do
the ~~skidding~~ skidding and trucking of the logs. They employ from 27 to 30 men
and at present they have a mill operating in Va. near Bolar Springs and another
operating in Greenbrier Co. They run a boarding house and as Curry has a gen.
store in Marlinton his hands do their trading there. This operation has meant
a lot to Pocahontas County.

Information. P. C. Curry. Marlinton. W. Va.

C. G. McGuire.

The mill is set on the William H Cackley farm near the Stamping Creek
Church.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry.

Date 3/15/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken _____

Typist Smith

Date Typed 3/5/41

Source F.P. Knud Beara .W.Va.
J.R. Outlip. " "

Date Filed _____



2 Moos Miller Buckeye.W.Va.

had a promise of more detail in. on these but failed to get it in time.

5/41

In 1907 the Kidd Kirby And Lilly Lumber Co. were operating in the head of the hollow on a branch of Trump Run the farm now owned by F.P. Kidd, The Lilly Lumber Co. was operating at Hinton at this time and the Kidd Kirby And Lilly Lumber Co. were capitalized at \$100,000.00 and the main stockholders were F.P. Kidd & C.H. Kirby and the Lilly Lumber Co. of Hinton W. Va.

At this set they sawed between 6 and 7,000,000 this lumber was taken to the main line of the C & O by a narrow gauge R R down to the mouth of Locust, they operated here until 1912 and moved to the William McClure farm and operated here until 1914. This was a 6 foot circular mill, and upon completion F.P. Kidd operated at Kinnison operating the upper end of the Denmar tract that was operated by the Maryland Lumber Co. they put in a swinging bridge across the Greenbrier at Kinnison to bring the logs to the west side of the river where the mill was set, a good lumber town sprang up at Kinnison during this operation as they had a store and several dwelling houses for the men and their families. This operation furnished employment to from 40 to 50 men.

Inf. F.P. Kidd Beard. W. Va.

J.R. Cutlip. " "

2

In 1936 A.G. Killingsworth of Marlinton operated a tract of timber he bought from Moss Miller of Buckeye, W. Va. Park McLaughlin sawed this set with his mill this was virgin timber and mostly White and Red Oak that cut out choice lumber part of it was bill stuff and brought a fancy price this was skidded with Killingsworth's horses driven by Marion Howard.

Another of his operations was at Cloverlick, sawed by McLaughlin and in 1940 he bought a boundary on Stamping Creek but sold it to Lee Barlow of Marlinton but is being cut and skidded by Killingsworth's men and horses. Killingsworth operates a planing mill at Marlinton also does contract ing, and has built some of Marlinton's better buildings, also sells building material. Inf. Moss Miller. Buckeye, W. Va. (a my own personal knowledge)

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Commerce And Industry.

Subject ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~

Date 3/12/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken Some time ago.

Typist Smith

Date Typed 5/12/41

Source B.G. Hayes, Maitropoli, N.Y.

Date Filed

D.E RUCKENB. " "

new hoping to get more in.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

In 1908 and 09 The Deer Creek Lumber Co. was operating on Stamping Creek near where the Stamping Creek stands today they were operating the timber from the William H Wade farm and at present owned by OM Hook & X this was a circular mill and they had a tram road from the mill to the timber some 2 miles or more, they used an incline, a drum, and a wire cable, driven by an engine. This brought the log trucks back from the mill to the woods, often the log trucks were high in the air on a trestle but the cable would let them go down the grade in a safe way. The main mill of this company, was operating at Deer Creek.

William Eisenhuth was the foreman on Stamping Creek and his wife run the boarding house. At the first of this operation they used horses to bring the empty log trucks back to the woods.

Willis Hill, Poe Weiford, Remus Rogers and OM Gladwell and B. C Hayes were teamsters, Jack and Gordon of Greenbrier cut the timber and Charlie Harouff worked by the day as a laborer.

Inf. B. C Hayes Millpoint. W. Va.

D. I Ruckman.

X

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce & Industry, (Lumber) Date 12/20/40

Research Worker S.G. Smith

Date Research Taken 12/18/40

Typist S.G. Smith

Date Typed 12/19/40

Source Frank Knapp - Denmar. W, Va.
Winters Cochran-Beard, II
Sidney McCoy

Date Filed Dec 23, 1940

Commerce And Industry, S. G. Smith, Hillsboro, W. Va. Pocahontas County.

Shoe Last Factory -

In 1923 a shoe last factory was put in at Spice Run, a man by the name of Frank Knox of Wisconsin was general manager, this operation took place on the East side of the Greenbrier River.

They used hard Maple for the last's this lumber they bought from the Spice Run Lumber Company, the last's or blocks that they were to be made from were cut and put in a Dry Kiln after this drying process they were ready to be shipped to New York, however they failed to ship many as the plant burned down but they rebuilt it but failed to operate again this was in 1924.

Information Frank Knox, Denmar, W. Va.

Winters Cochran Beard "

Sidney McCoy " "

10/11/40

John Raine And Company.

In 1907 John Raine of Ironton Ohio came to Pocahontas County, West Va. in the quest of timber locating and buying some 1250 acres of timber for approximately \$20,000.00 he took in as partners B.E Carrier and L.G Swing and doing business as John Raine and Co.

They set the mill about the center of the tract of timber on the head of Stamping Creek close to the foot of Cranberry Mountain. On the Millpoint to Richwood Road.

Their boundary started not far above the Stamping Creek church followed the bridge or backbone of Little Mountain to a point on Viney Mt, from there to the head of the hollow that leads to Cranberry River and Cranberry Glades around the Mountain toward the High Rocks taking in the Blue Lick and the Chestnut Ridge to the creek.

They put in a six foot or poney band mill run at a short time and it burned down they then set in a steam feed circular mill. They built a store, boarding house and about 20 dwelling houses and called the place Raine Town this section is still known as Raine town although the houses are all gone but two or three.

The timber cut was mostly all hard wood, namely cherry, red and white oak, ash and chestnut.

Raine had a locomotive, and a loader, railroads tracts were built up the hollows to shorten the haul in skidding which was quite steep in places 4 teams or 8 horses were used in the skidding.

Two men were killed during their operation Emmett Nottingham of Millpoint was killed cutting timber by a falling tree,

Ben Ramsey of Caesar's Mt. was killed on the log train he was brake-

10/11/40

John

Page 2---
Raine & Co.

S.G.S.

When the train was running away and somehow in trying to apply the brakes was between two cars and when they wrecked he was crushed by a log and O.M. Hooks the engineer jumped to safety and escaped with minor injuries although the logs had him pinned down, D.B. Kellison of Millpoint, the fireman jumped to safety and was unhurt save for cuts and bruises he received from landing in rocks and gravel.

Raine Town was a lively little lumber town it furnished employment to several men besides the ones living in the ^{Company} houses, as they employed some 35 men not counting the skilled workers, foreman etc. Their payroll was \$2,500.00 each month this furnished a market for the near by farmers for their surplus commodities, namely eggs, dairy products, meat and truck crops.

About as fast as the lumber was sawed it was loaded on standard gauge cars shipped out on Warn Lumber Co. R.R. to the main line of the C&O and to the many lumber markets in the eastern part of the U.S. Raine Town is between 3 & 4 miles from Millpoint ^{off} the Richwood Road and on the head waters of Stamping Creek.

John Raine was a very influential man in for every thing that was for the betterment of the community in which he lived and worked, helped with all church work and made large contributions to the church.

They finished up this operation in 1913 shipped out all the lumber and machinery, thus ended one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations and was greatly missed when the payroll not only stopped but the market for the farmers commodities.

Raine Town today is merely 2 or 3 houses and that is all that is left of the once thriving town.

10/11/40

Page 3

S.G.S

After this operation John Raine and his brother the late Thomas Raine founded the Meadow River Lumber Company at Rainelle, W.Va. one of the largest hardwood operations in W.Va. John Raine represented Greenbrier County for one term in the Legislature.

John Raine passed on August, 26/40 thus the passing of one of the best citizens of the Greenbrier Valley.

Information

-----Luther Ray

Millpoint W.Va.

Owen H. Hook

" "

Joseph Sharp

" "

C.W. Auldridge

" "

Pocahontas Times

Marlinton "

Court Records

" "

10/2/40

Pocahontas County

Industry And Commerce

S.G. Smith, Hillsboro, W. Va

The Empire Wood Company.

In 1912 while the Tomb Lumber Company was operating, a kindling wood factory was ~~set up~~ cut slabs and all other rough lumber of no value for building purposes this was done with a rip saw and cut off saw, these slabs and boards were ripped in to narrow strips cut in short blocks taken by elevator up in a dry kiln that was 100ft. high there they were dried sent back down a slide to the press where they were pressed in to bundles tied with a string and stored ready for shipment.

George L Hyde was general manager for the kindling wood factory they had a rep. and salesman in New York City where it was sold for 10 cents per bundle.

They shipped from 8 to 10 cars a month. When the Tomb Lumber Company ceased to operate The Empire Wood Company ^{lost} their contract for the slabs and other waste lumber from the mill that they cut in to kindling so in 1914 they cleaned up and moved out thus passed out the first and last mill that produced nothing but kindling This was used in New York to start coal fires in furnaces and other coal burning stoves,

Information-----

Glenn McComb----Watoga W Va.

George McComb----Watoga W Va.

Dennis Dunn----Watoga W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry Date 3/10/41

Research Worker' Samuel G. Smith Date Research Taken 3/11, 15, 17, 18/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed 3/18/41

Source E. H. Williams, Marlinton, W. Va. Date Filed _____
M. S. Wilson. " " "
James W. Forney. " " "
John Coffman. " " "
Court Records. " " "

Some information gotten before above date but included on above dates.



18/41

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
Larlin Lumber Company.

The Larlin Lumber Company started operation in 1920 and finished in 1933, this operation took place at Stillwell, W. Va. about one mile below Marlinton, in what is known as Stillhouse Hollow.

In this company were the following, Dr. M. S. Wilson pres. and E. H. Williams, and Burton Wilson Gen. managers at different times during the operation, among the stockholders in this company were the following Dr. M. S. Wilson (Meritt), George, Nathan and Burton all brothers. A. C. Pifer, E. H. Williams, Lee Barlow, and J. A. McLaughlin.

During their operation at Stillwell they sawed 52,000,000 feet and this came from approximately 13,000 acres this includes land in the Buckley Mountains, on Beaver Creek and Knapps Creek, besides some timber on Browns Creek that was trucked to near Laden Bottom and loaded on the log train. one tract of timber aggregating 9470 acres was formerly owned by Greenbrier River Lumber Co. and covers land on Knapps Creek, Greenbrier River, Improvement Lick Run, Monday Lick Run, Stillhouse Run, Laden Bottom, and Butler Hollow.

They had a single band mill and the sawyer was Floyd Lovelace,
Henry oversholt. at different times.
the lumber grader was Emory Adkison, and James W. Forney run a commissary for the co. they had 2 log engines, one log loader and about 30 log or tr-

ain trucks, John Coffman and Pete Spitzer were engineers. This Co. worked about 75 men besides the work that was done by contractors and among them were A.J Cook of Seebert and Merèdith logging contractors besides the some 8 or 9 teams of the co.

George Simmons of Hillsboro sawed a set for this Co. on Browns Creek.

Before this operation took place there was one or two farm houses at what was later known as Stillwell but at the last of this operation there were from 8 to 10 houses, a boarding house that was run by Brown McComb and his wife, a school house besides the buildings used by the co and today you find a string of houses here and it is still known as Stillwell, but the school has been discontinued and the children go to Marlinton to school. Part of this area cut over by The Marlin Lumber Co. was land logged in the days of the white pine by Smith & Whiting for the St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. of Ronceverte.

Rail roads were built from Stillwell up the hollow, up Knapps Creek and up all the hollows of their holdings and if all in one would have made quite a long distance of R.R .

Upon completion this mill was sold for junk thus the passing of one of Pocahontas Countys larger lumber operations , this operation gre-

ately benefitted Marlinton as it furnished employment to many of her people, and at this time was one of the very few industries operating in this section of the county, therefore the lumbering operations at Stillwell helped to boost the population of Marlinton and made employment for many of her people.

information. E.H Williams.Marlington,W.Va.

M.S Wilson. " "

James. W Forney. " "

John Coffman.

Court Records. " "

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce & Industry, (Lumber) Date 12/20/40

Research Worker S.G. Smith

Date Research Taken 12/18 & 19/40

Typist S.G. Smith

Date Typed 12/19 & 20 /40

J.V. McKenney, Marlinton, W. Va.
Court Records,

Source O.M. Hook, Millpoint, W. Va.

Date Filed

Dec. 23, 1940

-Commerce And Industry, S.G Smith Hillsboro, W, Va. Pocahontas County.

Lutz And Macinish-Lumber)

In 1911 D.E Lutz of Elkins Randolph County and a man by the name of Macinish of Belington came to Pocahontas County and bought timber from John and Levi V Gay of Edray deeds recorded as follows July 11, 1911 about 400 acres from Levi V Gay and Lee his wife amount paid \$5,000.00 and in 1912 John D and Allie Gay sold them a tract of timber for \$1,500.00 deed dated November 12, 1912, G.J McCarty was clerk of the County Court at that time.

They also bought a small amount of timber from Linnie Tyler of near Edray.

They set their Circular mill on the William Wooddell farm at the mouth of the Draft and just above where the Fair Ground, Brush Country Road crosses Stony Creek. They built a boarding house for the men and erected stables to care for their horses 8 in number as they did their own skidding and most of their cutting.

This Gay timber was located on and near Elk Mountain as they operated the timber on the face of Elk Mountain up to the big turn on the old road.

They had a locomotive, but loaded by hand, this was not a standard gauge engine nor was it a narrow gauge, it was in between, track was laid from the mill to the foot of Elk Mountain or a distance of approximately 4 miles. O.M Hook now a farmer of Stamping Creek was one of the locomotive engineers as well as William Waugh then of Ronceverte. The sawyers were Bert Roberts and I.O Smith and it was estimated they cut between 5 and 6 million feet at this set. This lumber was mostly Red and White Oak with some Chestnut and was shipped out about as fast as it was sawed as most of it went to the Government and mostly heavy timbers cut from White Oak.

This operation finished up in 1915 the mill was taken down and

moved south the log engine 2 or 3 log train trucks were bought by A.V Miller of Pennsylvania and at that time operating near Bartow near the head of the Greenbrier River.

They employed something like 20 men on the mill and in the woods besides 6 that operated the train and kept up the track there- fore the payroll of this lumber job meant a lot to Pocahontas County and especially to Marlinton as the clothing and grocery stores did a flourishing business during the time the timber of this county was being operated as the woodsman had to have warm clothing and plenty of good substantial food.

This operation did not affect the growth of Pocahontas County in the least directly but the taxes this company paid helped with our county government.

There is no trace of this operation at this time .

Information-J.V McKenney Marlinton W.Va.Rfd.

O.M Hook Millpoint ''

Court Records Marlinton ''

10/1/40

Pocahontas Co. - 7

Industry And Commerce

S.G Smith Hillsboro, W.Va

The Droney Lumber Company.

In 1906 J R Droney of the state of New York came to West Virginia to buy some timber land he came to Pocahontas Co, and bought between 8000 and 10,000 acres on the east side of Greenbrier River from Rock Run just above Burnside a flag stop of the Greenbrier Division of the C and O Railroad to above Violet which is another stop flag station of the C and O then up Beaver Creek by Howard Underwoods the entire valley from there toward Burr Vally this covered the entire area of Pyles Mountain, Island Lick, Chicken House Run which is just across the river from Seebert, W Va.

A mill site was selected at what is now known as Watoga, W.Va and there the mill was set up it was a single band mill which had a circular saw set beside to cut the small logs.

They built 25 or more dwelling houses, a boarding house, a store building post office, and school house, telephone service was extended there and everything made ready to start operation which started in March 1906, James Cook of Buckeye and A, J Cook of Seebert W. Va. contracted the skidding but George McComb of Watoga and Fdd Whiting of Pennsylvania skidded up Beaver Creek and a million feet elsewhere on the job. Morris and Kimes also had a contract during the operation of this tract of timber.

Around 175 men were used in the woods, on the train, on the mill and loader 2 locomotives and 1 loader was used. 30 to 40 horses R-R tracks were laid from the mill at Watoga up to Violet and up Beaver Creek, other tracks were laid to head of Chicken House run and to the head of Island Lick Run.

This company operated for approximately 4 yrs or 1910 and ran into difficulty and a new company took it over this time it operated under the name of Tomb Lumber Company William Tomb of Philadelphia, Pa. was General manager they op-

erated for another 4 years or until 1914 and they to were forced to quit and this time it was taken over by Watoga Lumber Company receivership for the company the job was completed in 1916.

This Watoga operation meant a lot to this section of the country as it furnished a market for surplus farm products of the surrounding territory namely dairy products poultry, eggs, meat, and truck crops. The Company built a school house and the county furnished the teacher for the children of the employees. Sunday School and preaching were held in the school building for the inhabitants of this lumber town.

Approximately 80 million feet were cut at Watoga besides the tan bark that was peeled and shipped out., to tanneries all over the United States. Wages paid at Watoga were 1.50 to \$2.00 with board or \$2 25 to \$3.00 and board yourself. the lumber was all shipped out and the mill taken down part of the rail and other equipment was bought by the Neel and Son Lumber Company operating near the head of the Greenbrier River the rest was disposed of elsewhere and shipped out of the country. at the close of this operation the houses with a suitable plot of ground was sold to the people from other sections of the state most of these were colored people and today we find a number of colored families living there, with a store, Postoffice, and a school when there is enough children to run a school. The Government having bought the mountain land to grow in to a forest.

One of my informants George McComb who is up in 80 years old worked at Watoga at day work also contract work, another informant Dennis Dunn worked a number of years at Watoga and

Page 3
Droney Lumber Co.

S.G. Smith
Hillsboro, W. Va.

ahontas Co.

living just across the river, he runs a passenger boat to the Watoga side and back, he is a very dependable ferryman and a part of his income is derived from his Ferry-boat, this is necessary in getting back and forth to Watoga, which is approximately two miles East of State Route 219 leaving state road at Stephen's Hole Run just above Millpoint, W. Va.

Information-----George McComb, Watoga, W. Va.
Dennis Dunn. Watoga, W. Va.
Sherman Pyles, Seebert, W. Va.
James S. Cook. Millpoint, W. Va.
Court Records, Marlinton, W. Va.

-----Spice Run Lumber Company, #1-----

In 1912 James Flynn of Charleston Kanawha County came to Pocahontas County looking for timber and upon locating what he wanted went back to Charleston and formed a company and in it were James Flynn, Gus and Mark Flynn along with some other stockholders at Charleston, and New York and forming what was known as The Spice Run Lumber Company which operated a short distance below Beard, W, Va or near the mouth of Spice Run on the Greenbrier River.

The first timber bought was from J.R Droney, The Pocahontas Timber Co Inc. and E.M Arbogast a Real Estate operator all on the East side of the Greenbrier River and extending up the river to The Maryland Lumber Co. cuttings.

They started operation in 1913 ^{set} in a single band mill built 25 dwelling houses for the men and their families, a boarding house and a company store in which the Post Office was kept.

They had 2 locomotives and a loader R.R tracks were built from the mill at Spice Run across the Greenbrier River and up the hollows to the head of Spice Run and Davys Run and in the immediate section of the Beaverlick Mt. this was standard gauge and was built mostly with Italian labor.

W.C Barlett of Cincinnati Ohio and Charlie Briggs of Glen Ray W.Va were Superintendents for the Spice Run Lumber Company, Barlett at the first of the operation and Briggs after, R.E Turpin and of Pa. and a man by the name of Brosious were the book keepers, and Dr's Gooch and Rich were the Company doctors.

The mill was at on what was known as the Rube McKeever or the Joe Perkins farm.

They employed some 125 men in the woods, on the mill and on the train and the common laborers received from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a day.

Spice Run Lumber Company #2

Having partially finished on the East side of the Greenbrier

River they decided to buy timber on the West side of the river their train making daily trips up the C & O line to Mill Run and up Mill Run crossing the State Road on a spur of Droop Mountain about 1½ miles below Hillsboro thence up and across Caesar Mountain to Bruffeys Creek and to Lobelia and up Hills Creek to the head or to the Cherry River Cutting, they bought timber from the following,

(Location)
Nancy R and G, H Dean --- Near Lobelia ---

A. M. & J. M. Simmons Rush Run

A. D. W. Hill Droop Mt.

Edwin L. Beard Cherry River

G. W. & Mary H. Hill Near Lobelia

J. C. Kinnison Bruffeys Creek & Hills Creek

J. W. & L. M. Bobbett Hills Creek

J. L. & Sarah V. Clowser Hills Creek

A. W. & Meta J. Hill "

C. M. & Azlia Anderson "

George & Mary E. Sutton --- Near Lobelia

R. C. & Arminda V. Outlip --- Droop Mountain

L. C. & T. C. McMillion --- Hills Creek

Allen & N. C. Spinks --- "

J. W. Dwyer --- Bruffeys And Hills Creek

R. M. & Ella Bruffey --- Hills Creek

W. Va. Pulp And Paper Co. --- " and Spice Run

G. A. & Florence Hull "

W. D. & Bessie Morrison --- Rush Run

W. W. & Rachel Kinnison --- Bruffeys Creek

E. A. & Mary E. Hodges --- Hills Creek

J. & Rebecca May --- Locust Creek

P. H. & Lula R. McSulty --- Bruffeys Creek

S. A. & Emma V. Sparks --- Rush Run

Sallie H. Rogers --- "

John G. & Elizabeth Beard --- Near Hillsboro & Caesar Mt.

Commerce And Industry ---S.G. Smith Pocahontas Co.
Hillsboro

Spice Run Lumber Co. #3

W.W & H.V Beard ---- Caesar Mt.

Mary B Coulter ----- Near Spice Run.

Samuel & Lucy Sheets -Droop Mt.

Warn Lumber Co.---Bruffeys & Hillscreek.

W.R & Florence McCoy---Bruffeys Creek.

J.M.L & Georgie Vaughn -Hillscreek.

G.B & Iberia Hill.--- "

S.J & Ada Payne .--- "

George A.Kinnison (land)

Andy Carter --- Caesar Mt.

D.M Kinnison --- Bruffeys Creek.

Mary C Morrison --- Rush Run .

G.A Kinnison --- Bruffeys Creek.

J.W Roderick ---Near the mouth of Spice Run.

E.M Arbogast .---A

Nathaniel Hollandsworth - Bruffeys Creek.

And Right of Way from the following.

J.M & R.H Cutlip.

G.C & Georgia Beard.

S.C & Minnie Dean.

J.F & Mary H Brock.

J.L McNeel

M.L & Elizabeth Beard.

Ellis & Sallie E McCarty.

J.W Kinnison

W.R & W.B Williams.

J.F & Ida J Darnell.

George F & Nevada B Alderman.

Edwin Moore.

J.S Mcneel the W.H Callison farm.

The cutting and skidding was mostly done by contractors and the following men had contracts--Sam Dean of Lobelia had (1) team and (3) men, Crockett also of Lobelia had (1) team and (4) men, George Dean of near Lobelia

--- Spice Run Lumber Company. ---# 4-

had (3) teams and 10 men, I. N. Clutter of near Lobelia had 5 teams and 12 men, Nathaniel Hollandsworth had from 3 to 5 teams and from 10 to 15 men, each of these men had camps for the men and built stables for their horses, and besides the company had 3 ~~a~~ camps operating just one at a time one was at the Dean Hollow on the main Hills Creek, one at John Eagles, and the other at Spruce Run, 12 teams and 50 men were used at these camps with the following men as boss or woods foreman, Nathaniel Hollandsworth, Toney Kershner, and Walter Bird of Pocahontas Co. Remus Rogers all of Pocahontas County and John Rossie of Greenbrier Co. Charles B Larue was blacksmith he being of Hillsboro, and Dr Marvin C Smith also of Hillsboro was the Veterinary in charge of the horses when they got sick or crippled and needed medical treatment.

Tom Snyder was general superintendant for a while and Lovic Vaughn of Lobelia and George Dolan of Millpoint were foreman of the improvement gang.

At each of the company camps you found a ~~store~~ store so the men could get tobacco and clothing without coming out to Spice Run.

Mrs Georgia Vaughn run a private boarding house that took care of some of the men and especially the foremans and their wives and the General Superintendent and other officials of the company ate there. At Lore?ia.

Accidents occurring on this operation were Archie Taylor of Renick, W. Va a section hand being run over by a train, and Romey Dorman of Beard ~~was~~ a brakeman on the train was crushed to death by a log that rolled from one of the train flat cars.

When they were running steady they cut something like 700 thousand a month and the best information I was able to get they cut in the neighborhood of 100 million during their operations at Spice Run as they cut over in the neighborhood of 23,000 acres this was on the East side of the Greenbrier River and what they operated on and near Caesar Mt, Bruffeys and Hills Creeks and upto the Cherry River Cuttings at the head of Hills Creek.

Robert B Larue of Hillsboro was store man in the company store at Spice Run.

This operation furnished employment to scores of woodsmen from this county as well as the surrounding counties and the little lumber town of Spice Run consumed the surplus farm products from the farmers in that

Spice Run Lumber Company.#5---

section and from Beard, Hillsboro and Droop Mountain and when they finished and moved out this was greatly missed by the farmers and the county in general felt the affects as well as the other business establishments as this was one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations.

Clarence Nesbit of N Y. and PA. was loaderman and R R foreman, and John Coffman was one of the engineers, he is now 74 years old and he tells me he has followed woods work for 43 years and that from 27 to 30 years of the 43 were spent in Pocahontas County and mostly as a Locomotive engineer as he worked on some of Pocahontas County's leading and larger timber operations. Homer Painter, Roy Shope, and Mott Gladwell were also engineers as well as Heaston Knapp who was engineer, fireman and brakeman. Walter Wiseman was saw filer and sawyer for a time, Floyd Lovellace was also sawyer for a time.

The two locomotives were brought to Spice Run from Bemis, W, Va & bought from The Wheeler Lumber Co, who had finished up at Bemis.

Upon my visit to Spice Run the scene of this operation I only found 2 houses standing out of the 25 originally built there Mrs Blanche Dorman the widow of Romey Dorman that was killed on this operation lives in one of these houses and the other rented to different people at different times as it is generally rented to the renter of the farm and now rented to Edith Callahan. The R R steel was mostly leased from the C & O and was taken up and returned to them, the mill and machinery was shipped to Spring Creek and put in operation there.

They owned something like 15 000 acres on the East side of the Greenbrier River and today the Government owns that, but the Spice Run Lumber Company still owns 200 acres on the West side where the mill set and where all the houses were built. This operation finished up in 1925.

Information---Joe Cochran---Beard, W, Va. (Laborer on this operation)
Blanche Dorman--- " " (Widow of a train man)
Winters Cochran--- " " (Blacksmith on the job)
Lovie Vaughn---Hillsboro, " (Section Foreman)
Frank Knapp---Denmar. " (Lumber Piler)
John Coffman---Marlinton, " (Engineer)
Nathaniel Hollandsworth---Spice, " (Boss and Contractor)
Court Records Marlinton, W, Va.

...and a retired ...
...each ...
...assistant ...

Chapter Seven-----
Pocahontas County

9/17/40

American Column And Lumber Company-----

The American Column and Lumber Company of St. Albans with Mr. M. W Stark of that city Supt and general manager came to Pocahontas County on the quest of timber and was informed that the McClintic brothers namely Withrow, Lock, and George of Buckeye, Marlinton and Charleston respectively had a tract for sale.

They bought this boundry of timber for \$40,000.00 which proved to have 34 million feet on it.

They contracted the manufacturing of this timber to the Bartholemew brothers namely George and Samuel of Cedar Grove Kanawah county, Bartholemews had a single band mill which they set close the Buckeye station of the C & O railroad this timber was located on Cave Creek, Bucks Run, Dry Creek and the head waters of McClintic Run on McClintic homestead, there was approximately 700 acres of this timber both hard and soft wood. The boundary run by the Pinnacle Rocks, thence to the Billie Sod thence to the Campbell Lumber Company cuttings, then running with the farms of the following Hannah McNeill, L.A Hefner, M.J McNeill, L.R Overholt, William C. McNeill, John Gay, M. Fleming, A and H, Shelton, N.C Rogers, D. A McNeill, and Jasper Auldridge.

Quite a little lumber town grew up at Buckeye station two stores a boarding house and 10 or 12 dwellings houses.

The mill was set railroad tracks were laid up Swago Creek to the timber and everything made ready to start operation they had two locomotives and a steam loader these were put on the tracks and by the use of iron cables and steel drums they were able to take the two locomotives and the steam log loader across the Greenbrier River not far from Buckeye station this was very dangerous task as they were heavy but were landed safely on the opposite side of the river.

About 100 men were used on the mill, in the woods and on the train the common laborers were paid from \$3 to \$4 a day. J. F Mills, of Charleston, took the contract to do the skidding he worked a while made no money and was forced to give it up the American Column And Lumber Co, finished the skidding which was done with horses. This operation furnished employment for workmen from the surrounding territory and this payroll meant a lot to this section of Pocahontas County besides the payroll the market for surplus commodities of the Swago Community namely eggs, butter, potatoes, meats, and vegetables. The school enrollment was greatly increased in number. The church was greatly benefitted as Rev. J. V Tadlock a brother in law of the Bartholemews and a retired Presbyterian minister had Sunday School and preaching each Sunday in the afternoon with good attendance, George Bartholomew assisted

Chapter Seven.

with the Sunday School. These new comers with the help and assistance of local talent raised the morall of Swago Community.

A large percent of the people living in this little lumber town were tax payers thereby helping run our schools and to the support of our county government, which was greatly missed when they finished up and moved away.

The lumber was graded and shipped out as fast as they received orders for it to go to different parts of the country besides what was sold locally. Bartholomews finished up sawing in the spring of 1917, the stores sold out and quit business most of the families moved out to find employment elsewhere but for several years some of these houses were occupied but today there is no trace of this operation as the location where the mill set is being farmed by John Buckley the owner of the mill site then and today. Pocahontas County was rich in natural resources but the greatest was her timber which left payrools in each section of the county which helped it develop other resources but chiefly coal, but quite an area of this once wooded area has been cleared up put in grass that affords abundance of pasture for cattle and sheep which the farmers sell to make a living since the timber has all been out.

Information. George Bartholomew-----Hillsboro, W.Va.

Court records.---Marlinton. W, Va.

A.W. McNeill. Buckeye .W.Va.

J.L. Howard. Buckeye. W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry.Lumber- Date I/8/41

Research Worker S.G Smith Date Research Taken I/7/41

Typist S.G Smith Date Typed I/8/41

Source John C McNeill.Buckeye.W.Va.
G.Preston Moore.Marlington.W.Va. Date Filed
Court Records.



Commerce And Industry.S.G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

- Lumber-

In 1915 Paul Golden of Marlinton went into the lumber business and his first operations were on Clover Creek near Cloverlick and on Browns Creek but this operation was on Spruce Flats near Buckeye, having bought a 90 acre boundary of timber from Bessie and W McClintic of Buckeye for \$1.000.00 this tract was formally the Marshall, McGraw land.

Golden employed Floyd Lee originally from Oakland Maryland who had a circular mill to do the sawing Lee was sawyer. Frank Jordan and Sumner Galford of Woodrow on Laurel Creek did the cutting and skidding they had a camp. Lee had a camp and boarded the mill men this operation finished up in 15 and it was found they had cut 600.000 feet which was wagoned out to Buckeye and Marlinton for shipment where ever he could get an order for lumber. From here Golden went to operate near the Va. line on Allegheny Mountain.

Information-John C McNeill. Buckeye.W.Va.

G.Preston Moore. Marlinton.W.Va.

Court Records.

1 1 1 1

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry 1

Date 3/7/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken 3/4, 5, 6/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 3/7/41

Source Thomas Hause, Buckeye, W. Va.
Court Records, Marlinton, W. Va.

Date Filed _____



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro, W. Va. Pocahontas County.

In 1912 Paul Golden of Marlinton bought a tract of timber from S. Mc. Dickey and Birdie O his wife located near Cloverlick and containing 81 acres. Golden had a circular mill and did his own skidding.

Emory Anderson and Bert Roberts of Marlinton were sawyers and A. A. Rucker, Eustace Brindle and J. L. Jackson of Buckeye Cut the timber and when they had finished up it was found they had sawed 600,000 which was wagoned to Cloverlick and shipped out over the C & O.

Golden also operated a tract of 319 acres that he bought from R. H. & Mintie Dudley who lived in August County Va. but the timber was on Clover Creek and adjoining the lands of the following S. E. Hannah, J. J. Coyner, Edgar Dilley and the Clover Creek Cattle Co.

This set cut out 900,000 and was skidded by Golden and sawed by Roberts and Anderson but cut by Cameron and Kemp Meeks.

Golden also bought timber from the following the William P. Hogsett timber on Browns Creek, a tract from Thorney Creek Lumber Co. in Huntersville District.

Upon completion of his timber holdings Golden sold his mill to James Burgess.

Information- Thomas Hause, Buckeye, W. Va.

Court Records, Marlinton, W. Va.

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Pocahontas County
May 2, 1940
Ch. 4, Sec. 3b-4

Salt Works in Pocahontas

The main salt factory was at the Blue Hole on Stony Creek about one mile above Campbelltown. This was a small salt spring; the tradition is that the water was just of the right saltiness to boil corn meal mush in. The site of this spring belonged to General Andrew Lewis. It is supposed he surveyed it out on the same trip that he surveyed Marlins Bottom in 1751.

Along sometime in the 1840's salt was made there by the late Captain William Cochran. He wished to increase the flow of salt water. He rigged up a tilt pole arrangement, linked hickory sapling together and bored a well about 475 feet deep. Things appeared to be perfectly all right when they quit work one evening. When the men returned to work next morning they found the well had blown up and ruined the outfit. The spring never flowed again. It has always been supposed that the drill had tapped a pocket of gas. The work was abandoned. This spring was in the field now belonging to Mrs. Margaret Baxter, not far from the forks of the road.

In Marlinton, years and years and years later, salt water and a small flow of gas was encountered in a water well at about the same depth reached by William Cochran.

The tradition persists that salt was made in pioneer times at Clover Lick. The old lick spring is now in the edge of Clover Creek, not far upstream from the backwater of Berry Coyner's power dam. Deer have begun, again of late years, to come into the lick.

This salt spring together with the abundance of clover which grows around it, gave to Clover Lick its name.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber

Date 2/28/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 2/21/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 2/28/41

Source Pocahontas Times. Marlinton. W. Va. Date Filed



Commerce And Industry.Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

In 1923 A.D Neil sold to the Raine Lumber Co.the saw mill,railroad, engines,bridges,houses and so forth,this was a band mill for \$ 230.000.00 the deed transferred some 5.000 acres of timber in in the Huntersville and Greenbank district.This operation was at Clover Lick.The railroad was built up Laurel Run and Thomas Creek and passes over the divide to the waters of Thorny Creek.Joe Rain of the Rain Lumber Co.in charge,he is the son of Thomas Raine and represents the second generation of a very important lumber family from Pennsylvania.

The revinue stamps on the deed amounted to \$ 230.00 a good deal of the timber conveyed lies on the road between Huntersville and Dunmore and is a well known forest.(Now seneca State Forest or a part of it.)

Taken from Pocahontas Times.By Price. Marlinton.W.Va.

Pocahontas-7

Research taken on dates of above
with J. A. Dennison at that time & before.

Commerce And Industry-S.G Smith,Hillsboro,W,Va.Pocahontas Co.

The Maryland Lumber Company.

40
In 1910 some men from Pennsylvania and Maryland came to Pocahontas County and bought timber lands at Denmar aggregating over 17,000 acres, of this 16534 was bought from The Chaffey Wilson Lumber Company of Elkins for which was paid \$309,000.00 this land was located on Oldham and Laurel Runs, a tract or rather a farm for the mill site known as the Rankin farm and purchased from Linda Burns and husband acreage 178 and a small boundary from J.W Beard of Beard, another tract of 21 acres from L.S and Effie Cochran, and 33 acres deeded by A.D Williams commissioner of school lands.

The men that were in the Maryland Lumber Company were the following President & Manager J.A Dennison, Secretary S.W Sowers, Treas, John G. Ernst all of Hagerstown, Md, and Vice President D.S McNitt of Lewistown Pa. The company was a Corporation and the stock sold mostly in and around Hagerstown but some stock was sold in Pa. Va. & W. Va.

This operation started in May 1910 the mill was set between the R-R and the Greenbrier River in the bottom of The Rankin Farm, this was a double band mill. They erected 25 dwelling houses for the men and their families a boarding house and a Company Store Claude Dennison was store man and Post Master at Denmar. A bridge was built across the river to the main tract of timber which layed on Laurel and Oldham Run which was surveyed by George W Duncan of Marlinton but an old survey gave the following calls: This was the in 1904. Starting with the old McClanahan survey and the lands of J.R Droney by the Workman field by a branch of Kinnison Run to the John Kellison tract and cornering with W.C Burr and with J.R Droney to Island Lick Run to Peels Run south to

the Poage place to the creek to the corners of McClanahan and James Swan Survey in The Beaverlick Mountains to the Rider land then with the McClanahan survey to the Bee Trough^X Knob crossing Oldham Run, to Joshua Run, to Wolf Lick Run. The Sherwood Tract started with the McClanahan survey taking in the John Burr tract, and another tract known as the Robert Burnside tract and joining the McConahan and James Swan survey including Mill Run. This land was conveyed to Chaffey Wilson Lumber Co. of Elkins by John T McGraw March 10, 1909 and deeded to The Maryland Lumber Co. by Richard Chaffey Pres. of Chaffey Wilson Lumber Co. of Elkins, W.Va. This land was all laying on the East side of the Greenbrier River.

Rail road track was layed from the mill up Oldham and Laurel Run^{on} which they ran 3 engines daily as they had 2 Climax engines and a Shay, they had 2 steam loaders and used 10 teams or 20 head of horses in the skidding, Jake Carey was Woods Superintendent he was originally from Pa. but at this time of Huntersville, W.Va. Camps were built for the men and barns for the horses. Dr. Marvin Smith^{Hillsboro.} was the Veterinary in charge of the sick and crippled horses. Henry Hufford was shop, mill and yard foreman and Dr. McElwain was the Company doctor in charge.

At the first of the operation they contracted the skidding to E.P and Chester Hendrick but they only skidded a short time when the Company took it over and did the skidding themselves, Hendrick's were from near Renick, W.Va.

J. Vance Dennison son of the Pres. lost an arm on the mill, and Hammond Mann of Pocahontas County was killed by the log train.

Some 150 men were employed on this operation and they sawed over 100,000,000 feet and sold off the North East portion of this tract to

Frank P Kidd then of Hillsboro and now of Beard, W, Va. which was operated by him.

The Maryland Lumber Company sawed all kinds of lumber and for many different purposes as they had a lath mill and made laths from White Pine and other soft wood, and at the same time they had lumber cut for chair backs, most all their lumber was shipped out over the C & O Rail Road, as the local market was very limited. They manufactured both hard and soft wood.

This operation finished up ~~was~~ in 1918 and was sold to the state of W.Va. but they did not clean up until 1919 when everything was cleaned up and moved out. All the land and buildings on the West side of the Greenbrier River was sold to the State for a Colored Tuberculosis Sanitarium this was the Rankin place and the Maryland Lumber Co. buildings the boarding house was used for the hospital which was replaced by the modern up-to-date hospital built in 1937 & 38 by the W.P.A the store building is now used as a Postoffice, the old mill shed is used to store feed and house the machinery that the state has at this farm. The Blue Grass Land Co. bought some 8,000 acres on the left of Laurel Run and later sold it to the state for reforestation the right hand side of the run was bought by The New River Coal Co. operating in Raleigh and Fayette Co. this tract had approximately 9,000 acres in it.

Upon completion of this operation J.A Dennison and his son went to Stevenson, Alabama and formed The Chickamauga Cedar Co in 1923 and are operating there today.

The Denmar Lumber Company meant a lot to Pocahontas County as it furnished employment for near 150 men and a good percent of these

40-The Maryland Lumber Co. S.G Smith. Hillsboro, W.Va. Pocahontas County.
(Lumber) Page 4.

were local county men . This lumber town consumed the surplus farm commodities of Denmar, and Beard and was greatly missed when it finished up and moved out.

Today we find at the scene of this operation some of the same buildings used by the lumber company and just above them we find a beautiful concrete structure where the Negroes of this state that have Tuberculosis are treated and this farm is one of the better farms in this section of the county producing an abundance of grains and truck crops that are used at the Denmar Sanitarium, the ashes from this mill helped to build up this river bottom farm .

Denmar got ~~it's~~ its name from the names Dennison and Maryland Den-mar as Dennison was the Pres. of this co. and he was from Maryland.

Thus the passing of one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations.

Information-J.A Dennison, Stevenson, Alabama.

Frank Knapp. Denmar. W.Va.

Henry Kincade. Beard. W.Va.

Court Records. Marlinton. W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas-7

Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber

Date I/II/4I

J.E Moore Lum.Co.

Research Worker S.G Smith

Date Research Taken I/IO/4I

Typist S.G Smith

Date Typed I/II/4I

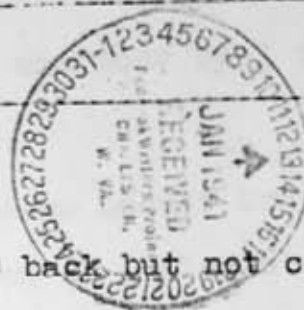
Sidney McCoy.Beard.W.Va.

Source Remus Cutlip. " "

Date Filed

E.B Callison.Marlington.W.Va.

Court Records. " "



Obtained part of this information some time back but not complete
enough to send in until this time.

Recherches-7

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry.Lumber

Date I/II/4I

J.E Moore Lum.Co.

Date Research Taken I/IO/4I

Research Worker S.G Smith

Date Typed I/II/4I

Typist S.G Smith

Sidney McCoy.Beard.W.Va.

Date Filed

Source Remus Cutlip. " "

E.B Callison.Marlington.W.Va.

Court Records. " "



Obtained part of this information some time back, but not complete enough to send in until this time.

41

Timber 265A

Mules
Mules

WHEN THIS HAPPENED THE LOGS WERE

Samuel G. Smith
Hillsboro, W. Va.

INDUSTRY

Chapter 7.

Pocahontas County.

MIDDLE-FORK DRIVING COMPANY

In 1895 Withrow McClintic of Buckeye, Pocahontas County, then a farmer and stock buyer, took a contract from the Gauley Lumber Company, of Camden, now known as Camden-on-Gauley, to cut, skid and drive to Camden the timber on some 3000 to 4000 acres located on the Middle Fork of Williams River.

They cut the timber, ran it down a slide to the Middle Fork of Williams River, and from there into Gauley River that carried the logs to Camden-on-Gauley. Splash dams were constructed in Williams river to gather a tide to make high water so the logs would carry over shallow water. These dams were built of logs and reinforced inside ^{the crib} with rock; the ends of the logs were nailed together with iron spikes 2 to 3 feet long. In this crib were gates operated by levers.

When the water had gathered to a depth sufficient to raise the logs from the bottom of the river, the gates were opened and the tide carried the logs down the river until the tide ran low and there they would stop until a flood came or until the dam had filled to be let out again.

Often the logs were piled in the river 50 to 60 feet high and would jam and not start moving. When this happened the logs were

dynamited to loosen them up and start them down the river.

Mr. McClintic got part of his supplies from Ronceverte and Millboro, Va. These were brought in with wagons drawn by four horse teams. Trail was cut out a distance of 18 miles from Spruce Flat close to Buckeye and Mountain Lick Run on Williams River to the camp by way of Barlow Hacking. This trail is still known as the McClintic Trail. In going to the camp you crossed Williams River 23 times and Gauley one time, a very rough trail.

It took from four to five days to go to Millboro or Ronceverte and bring in groceries for the camp and feed for the horses.

McClintic employed from 35 to 45 men and used from 10 to 12 teams of horses.

The men were paid \$32.00 per month, with board. The work was very dangerous, especially on the slides from the log landing to the river, and the driving of the logs down the river; however, the most serious of accidents were minor mashes, bruises and broken legs. McClintic was paid \$5.75 per thousand to cut, skid, and drive to Gauley River. Most of the men were from Pocahontas County, but a few came in from Greenbrier County, and the State of Virginia. Part of this timber was in Webster County, close to Cowen.

Mr. McClintic did not get to finish the job due to trouble with the Gauley Company, but was at the job off and on for seven years, and came out in 1902.

They held back a percentage of his earnings until the job was completed. This ran up over \$40,000. but Mr. McClintic got only \$20,000. of this sum and moved all equipment out. From this time on he operated logging jobs and ran small saw mills of his own in different sections of the County and adjoining Counties.

Middle-Fork Driving Company

From 1895 until his death in 1931 Withrow McClintic, beyond any doubt, furnished employment to more men than any individual in Pocahontas County, as he at all times employed from 20 to 35 men at lumber manufacturing, putting out telephone poles, locust for pins, locust posts, mine props and any other timber he could find a market for.

Since his death several families have been forced to leave the community to find employment, as his payroll meant a lot to the Swago community in which he lived.

He was a large land owner, handled large numbers of sheep, cattle, horses and mules; therefore, he was a large tax payer.

(Information J. O. Morrison, Marlinton, W. Va.
Tom Hause, Buckeye, W. Va.
W. G. McKeever, Buckeye.)

10/30/40

Commerce And Industry Chapter Seven—

Limestone Lumber Company.

S.G Smit h

H illsboro.W.Va;

Pocahontas County. — 7

In 1902 Samuel Workman of Ronceverte a lumber grader took an option on 500 acres of timber on Williams River taking in Little Spruce Knob and Days Run and owned by Alvin Clark of Hillsboro. Workman had the deed made to t he Campbells Creek Coal Co. of Fayette Co, this deed was signed by Alvin Clark, Blanche Sydenstricker, T.A Sydenstricker, Grace C. Price, Andrew Price and Cameron Clark in 1905 with 3 years to remove the timber or to 1908 this land and timber joined the following farms. C.F Beard and M L Beard.

This timber was mostly Spruce and H^Lemlock and Mr Clark recd \$10.000.00 for it. The deed was notorized by G.R Curry of Hillsboro.

Campbells Creek Coal Co, employed the Limestone Lumber Co, to Mfg the timber they had a circular mill which was set on Days Run the services of 20 men were required on the mill and in the woods they used 2 teams to do the skidding, a boarding house was built to take care of the men employed there. The lumber was brought out over the Campbell Lumber CoR .R .

This operation finished up in 1908 and moved out this land today is owned by the U.S Government and a part of the vast Gov,holdings on Williams River bought up by them for reforestation purposes.

Information-----Calvin Price Marlinton W Va

Court Records " "

J.O Morrison " "

D C Adkison " "

A.W McNeill Buckeye. W Va

Locahout 7

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 2/6/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 2/1, 4/41

I -
Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 2/5, 6/41

Source D.F. Buckman, Millpoint, W. Va.
George Simmons, Hillsboro, W. Va.

Date Filed _____

2- Inf- George Simons, Hillsboro, W. Va.
Willis McKeever, Buckeye. "



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
Lumber

In 1894 Withrow McClintic operated the timber on the William O McClune farm now owned by O. M Hook, the circular mill was set in the run near the McClune residence and ready for operation.

The skidding was done by McClune and Russel, John And Cisler Sylva of Stamping Creek, the cutting was done by Prime Dilley and John Ginger, the sawyer was Henry Overholt. C. Hunter Kee worked on the mill and Everett Hefner was teamster for McClintic in hauling the lumber away and bringing in supplies for the camp. Most of this lumber was sold locally.

Information- D. E Ruckman. Millpoint. W. Va.

George Simmons. Hillsboro. W. Va.

From about 1890 to 92 or 93 Withrow McClintic was operating on Williams River and one set was near where the Burgess barn stood this timber was bought from William T Beard of the Levels, he had another set near the head of Days Run this was bought from Alvin Clark also of the Levels and it was at this set that McClintic used the first steam engine to run his mill this was about 1890.

Another set was on the William T Beard farm and just beyond where Emery Miller now lives, this set was mostly Cherry and Ash, he bought one acre from Alvin Clark of spruce and from this acre they sawed 110,000 feet or a record per acre.

McClintic moved in on the Hunt McClintic farm and set up one set was near the Hunt house and the other set was in Buckeye Hollow these two sets were sawed for Hunter McClintic and in all these operations on Williams River Henry Overholt was the sawyer.

This lumber was all wagoned or sledged to Buckeye and rafted down the Greenbrier to Ronceverte.

Information. George Simmons. Hillsboro. W. Va.

Willie McKeever. Buckeye. W. Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce And Industry (Lumber) Date 12/9/40

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 12/4,5,7/40

Typist Samuel G. Smith

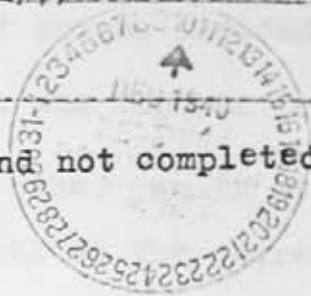
Date Typed 12/7/40

John Buckley, A.W McNeill

Source W.G McKeever, Nancy A McNeill
Of Buckeye, W. Va

Date Filed _____

Information gotten from different people and not completed
until 12/7/



Commerce And Industry, S.G. Smith Hillsboro, W. Va. Pocahontas County.

--- Whip Saw Operations---

In 1870 Nathaniel and Davidson Arthurs of Webster County came to Pocahontas County and sawed lumber with what was known as a Whip Saw, they operated mainly on Spruce Flats And on Beaver Dam.

A whip Saw is about 8 feet long, with more thickness than a Cross Cut Saw, had two handles on each end straight across instead of up and down so they could be run by both hands. A pit was dug out for one man to stand in while a Scaffold was built for the other man to stand on, the logs being placed on the scaffold on a level so they were easily rolled in place. 300 feet was considered a good days ~~work~~ cutting with the Whip Saw.

They sawed lumber for Jake Simmons on Spruce Flats that was used for flooring it was mainly Cherry, also the lumber that built the Ike house that is near Downey Run on Williams River, the land now ~~part of~~ apart of the McClintic farm.

Nathaniel married Eliza Beverage, daughter of Pete Beverage of the head of Dry Creek and near the divide between Stony Creek and the ~~dry~~ ~~side~~ /Creekside.

Upon completion of their operations in Pocahontas County the two brothers and Nathaniel's wife went back to Webster County, Nathaniel and his wife locating at Grassey Creek in Webster.

Thus the passing of one of our first and crudest lumber operations in Pocahontas County.

Information---John B Buckley	Buckeye, W. Va.
Willie G McKeever	" "
A.W McNeill	" "
Sancy Ann McNeill	" "

POCAHONTAS TANNING CO.
TANNERS
312 Smallridge Building
Charleston W. Va.

August 31, 1937

The Manager
The Pocahontas Tanning Co.
Frank, W. Va.

Dear Sir:

For inclusion in the West Virginia section of the American Guide, being prepared by the Federal Writers' Project, we would like the following information.

Comparatively speaking, how large is the tanning company? One of our field workers states that it is the largest in the world. How many workers are employed?

What is manufactured? If raw materials, where and for what are they used? Are materials used in the plant readily available in the vicinity or must they be imported?

Is this a West Virginia concern or is it owned by outside interests?

Are visitors allowed to go through the plant?

What factors led to the location of the plant in this comparatively isolated neighborhood?

Is the town of Frank company owned? Are the workers' homes company owned?

A section of the West Virginia Guide will consist of highway tours, one of them being a tour of US 250. The Pocahontas Tanning Company, being a large plant and situated in a section where there are no other manufacturies, deserves mention as a point of interest. For this reason we naturally wish out information to be accurate and will appreciate any material which you can let us have,

Sincerely yours,

Assistant State Editor

POCAHONTAS TANNING CO.

H. M. WIDNEY, SUPERINTENDENT

TANNERS

RAILROAD STATION, TELEGRAPH AND
AMERICAN EXPRESS OFFICES, DURBIN,
POCAHONTAS COUNTY, W. VA.
C. & O. AND W. MD. RAILWAYS

POSTOFFICE: FRANK. (POCAHONTAS COUNTY) W. VA. Sept. 8th, 1937.

Miss Margaret C. Williamson, Ass't. State Editor,
W. P. A.,
Charleston, West Va.

Madam:-

We acknowledge receipt of your letter of 31st, ult., and would answer your questions as follows:-

✓ The Durbin Tannery of the Pocahontas Tanning Co., is probably the second largest tannery in the U. S. A., both in floor space and production, devoted entirely to the production of sole leather. Recent enlargements of competitive plants does not give us definite information on this subject at this time.

✓ Manufactured products are SOLE LEATHER for the purpose of building new shoes. By-products are Washed Cattle Hair used in floor coverings, insulation felts and many styles of felt padding. Glue stock used for the manufacture of glues and also greases.

Raw Hides are obtained from the Packing Centers of the USA, South America, Mexico, Australia and Europe. Tanning Materials are procured in USA, South America, Africa, Philippine Islands, Turkey and India, and local Hemlock and Oak barks from the West Virginia Forests.

The Pocahontas Tanning Co., is a West Virginia Corporation with Main Office at Main and 24th Sts., Wheeling, West Va.

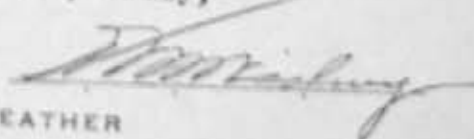
Due to the tanning processes requiring tanning vats and surroundings wet, visitors are not sought after, however, we do allow partial visitation of plant and exhibit main product and By-products.

✓ The plant was located at Frank, West Va., account of the close-up supply of large quantities of hemlock and oak bark, which supplies are now largely exhausted.

Frank, West Va., is an unincorporated village located in Greenbank, District. It is partly Company owned houses with many privately owned residences. It is an ideal location, houses are well maintained and the people have much civic pride. Located on US Route 250.

Trusting this is the information you seek, we are,

Yours very truly,



NOTHING TAKES THE PLACE OF LEATHER

Ch. 7 - Commerce & Industry
In 1908 John Pace and John Luzier of Tucker County came to Pocahontas County and bought the timber off of some 400 acres.

This was principally red oak and some white oak.

X One tract of this timber of approximately 200 acres was purchased from John Beverage on the right prong of Dry Creek a tributary of Snago Creek and not far from Buckeye, Post office and C&O Railroad, close the divide between Dry Creek and Stony Creek.

The other tract of approximately 200 acres was purchased from Daniel Adkison also of Buckeye and located on the left prong of Dry Creek but on the side of the mountain leading to Williams River.

They first set their mill on the Beverage farm the trees were cut and skidded to the mill which was a single band, there the logs were cut in lengths from 18 inches to 30 inches set on end and quarter sawed in to inch lumber to be used for chair backs which were shipped mostly to Philadelphia, Pa. and Baltimore, Md. to furniture factories.

They finished this set up in 1910 and moved to the Adkison farm and set their mill in Camp Secret Hollow, on the Adkison farm.

2 This land was very rough the skidding was very hard as they would have to skid the logs a short distance, cut loose from them and roll them over high cliffs of racks and again hook the horses to the trail of logs and finally get them to the mill and cut them into chair backs mostly 22 inches long and 1 inch thick so when they were surfaced they were 3/4 inch thick, this oak took a high finish and sold from \$80.00 to \$140.00 per thousand at the furniture factories.

X This chair back timber was taken by sled or wagon to be loaded on cars at Buckeye which is a stop on the C&O Railroad of the Greenbrier Division.

Pace and Luzier employed 8 to 10 men in the woods and on the mill, a greater part of this help they brought from their home county of Tucker, but a part of the

Pocahontas County

pay roll was spent locally in Pocahontas County and mostly at Buckeye, where there was a post-office and 2 or 3 stores but this operation did not add to the growth of Swago Community. However, the payroll helped greatly in some way or other as the taxes they paid helped run our schools and our county affairs.

They paid \$1.25 per thousand for cutting the timber and from \$1.50 to \$2.25 for other labor they finished up cutting the chair backs in 1912 but cut other lumber from logs not suitable for furniture for about a year and finished up and moved out in 1913 to some other section of the state, where red oak timber was plentiful and close to a railroad this passed another timber operation of Pocahontas County.

Information: Austin Duncan, Buckeye, W. Va. Harper Adkison, Marlinton, W. Va.
Bill Crigger, Huntersville, W. Va.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

LOG DRIVES ON THE GREENBRIER 1876 - 1899

Timber, especially the white pine, was cut at the head of the river, all along the river and all navigable creeks. During the winter months the logs were skidded to the river and piled up in big landings. They were fixed in a way that they would have to be kicked loose before they would tumble into the river. Before spring an ark was built on the water. This would accommodate from 70 to 100 men, or whatever number was needed to make the drives. An ark was also built for the horses, and some experienced teamsters were taken along on the drive.

When spring opened, men were hired to make the drive down the river. The men hired for breaking up the jams had to have experience.

It sometimes took six or eight weeks to make the drive down the river to Ronceverte where the timber was sold and made into lumber. One morning the men decided to play a joke on a certain young teamster who always made a dash for the table when the bell was rung, and usually succeeded in being the first one there. A board was laid between the two arks to be used as a walk-way between them. Foam often covered it so that unless one observed closely he could not tell if it was there or not. Before breakfast one morning the men decided to remove this board and give this teamster a bath. The breakfast bell rang and he made a dash for the table, did not notice the board was gone therefore plunged into the river. He swam to the ark and crawled on deck cussing mad. The other men kept from laughing as long as they could, but finally they burst out laughing and after a while the teamster joined in with them and every one had a good laugh.

From - Pocahontas Times - March 11, 1926.

Someone usually kept a record of what happened each day. Some days we would go as far as 18 or 20 miles while on other days we could look back at dark and see where we had started from in the morning. Driving the logs was very dangerous,

but usually only experienced men were hired so the accidents were few. Only one man was ever drowned.

One man, Sam Sheets lost a foot by getting it caught in the coil of a rope that held the ark. When the rope snapped taut the foot was severed.

It took 65 dozen eggs for breakfast and a barrel of flour made biscuits enough for four meals. One spring, on our trip down the river, the ark broke in two and we lost our provisions, and were therefore without food for the remainder of the journey.

The following names are those I can remember, that helped to make these long drives:

Sam Sheets

Jack Noonan

Dave Smith

Charley Nottingham

Bland Nottingham

Adam Dilman

Pat Shughrow

Isaac Madison

Bill Madison

John Buckley

Jack Coughlan

Jack McLuskey

Bob Drew - killed by falling tree

Alex Butterbaugh

George Bambrick

Walter Byrd

John Will Carpenter

Hance Carpenter

Jake McLaughlin

George Dunbrack

James Green

James McHaffey

Clyde Kingport

John Driscall

A. E. Smith

John Walker

George Wagner

Jim Stretch

Pierce Wooddell

George E. Moore

I got this information from George Bambrick of Huntersville, W. Va., who drove the Greenbrier River for 20 springs and who once rode the Greenbrier River in a boat from Sittington to the point of Droop Mountain.

On February 17, 1893, a big log drive of ten thousand white pine logs came down Knapps Creek on a driving flood and took out a dam that had been built for a grist mill. The dam was never rebuilt but there was a big law suit. Here was an ancient dam destroyed by a great company, a new comer, and therefore vulnerable. An offer to build back the dam better than ever without cost and to fix it so the logs would float over it was indignantly rejected. Cash was preferred. The records show that after some dilatory matters were disposed of the case came on for trial before a jury at the October term 1895, with an array of lawyers on both sides and a host of witnesses. Judge A. N. Campbell was presiding. He instructed the jury that if logs could be floated in certain seasons in Knapps Creek without the aid of artificial means, that it was a floatable stream, and that no person had the right to obstruct it with a dam. The verdict was for the defendants. The mill was never restored. This was the case of the doctrine of navigable waters.

From - Court Records

O'Connell's log camp was near Durbin and with the coming of two rival railway construction crews the roaring days began. Durbin in those days was rough and ready. O'Connell's last drive was in 1901. Well known men of Pocahontas County were in the

crew. Names such as these were well known to the older generation. Sherman Sutton, Wise Gillespie, Harper Smith, Lewis Lynch and J. A. (Jimmie) Kirkpatrick. Mr. Kirkpatrick was the cook and his cookee was Roland Scott.

When the construction crew reached what is now Brocker, C. G. Sutton carried the mail to the camp. On days that he could not go his daughter Mrs. P. F. Eades carried the mail on horseback. A box was located on what is now the Lee Galford farm for one of the camps, and from there down to the river and back to Durbin following the railroad grade. N. B. Arbogast was the postmaster and Mrs. Eades was his assistant.

Days when O'Connell and the construction camps paid off were usually rough. Mrs. Eades says she has changed the mail while John Bell or Gratz Slavins stood guard with a winchester.

From - Mrs. P. F. Eades.

The St. Lawrence Boom and Lumber Company were the ones who took out this timber by log drives.

PEOPLE ATTRACTED BY TIMBERING - 1876 - 1925

Most of the lumber companies, who came into Pocahontas, brought with them the men who had been employed by them elsewhere. The St. Lawrence Boom and Lumber Company brought with them quite a number of French-Canadians. A few of them remained in the county, but most of the people, attracted by timbering were non land owners, transient laborers who lived in houses built by the company and who moved on when the company moved. Many of them, too, were unmarried men who went into the lumber camps on Cheat Mountain and stay there for weeks at a time, having no connections with the outside world what-so-ever. But when they did come to Cass and other towns there was sure to be much drinking, gambling, and just a general rough time. It was never very safe for a young, inexperienced man to come into Cass when the "hicks" were in town, that is if it was known he had any money. He was sure to lose his money if not his life. Most of the men with families however, were of the better type who were peaceable citizens. When the lumber company finished up and moved on most of these people went too, as there was

nothing to employ them. Most of these ~~lumber~~ towns were practically deserted and in a little while the houses were sold to the farmers who tore them down and used the lumber for out buildings on ~~the~~ farm.

Note: I could find nothing written on this, so have had to write it from what I know, as much of the timbering was done ~~in~~ my time.

West Virginia Railroad Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pacahanta

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 2/12/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 2/6, 12, /41

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 2/13/41

Source Henry Overholt, Marlinton, W. Va. Date Filed

G.H Simmons. Hillsboro.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

- Lumber-

Charlie Callison moved from Cranberry to Williams River to saw for William H Overholt of Hillsboro who had bought Cherry timber in the Williams River section and the first set was at the Francis McCoy place ,with Henry Overholt doing the sawing and Callison doing the skidding with two teams of horses and two yoke of Oxen and it was at this set that Moffett Cutlip of Beard lost his foot while working on this mill this set was principally Cherry but some Spruce was sawed to be used in the construction of Rafts to raft the lumber to Ronceverte.

The second set was at the Mitchell Gordon place on Beaver Dam, the third set was on the Hunter McClintic place the timber having been bought from McClintic.

The fourth set was at Jacob ((Jake) Simmons place on Spruce Flats this was logged by Hamp Galford and Hunter McClintic both of near Buckeye and all sawed by Henry Overholt and was mostly Cherry but they sawed some mixed stuff for farmers of that section.

This lumber was wagoned or brought by sled to Buckeye and there the rafts were made from the Spruce that carried the lumber to Ronceverte where it was shipped to all parts of the country. This took place in 1891 & 92.

In 1893 Callison moved his mill to Locust Creek and set it on Trump Run to saw the Poplar from the William Callison farm that had been bought by William H Overholt however about 90,000 feet of this was rafted to Ronceverte in the log and 110,000 feet was sawed by Henry Overholt as sawyer for Callison at this set, some of the logs rafted had 1,600 feet in them.

This was skidded by Charlie Callison and his brother Thomas did the cooking at the camp.

Information. Henry Overholt. Marlinton. W. Va. ----- G. H Simmons. Hillsboro. W. Va.

10/18/40

Commerce And Industry-----S.G Smith, Hillsboro. W. Va

Pocahontas County.- 7 Campbell Lumber Company-----

In 1903 E.W and James Campbell of Dewdrop Pa. and John of Smithport, Pa. came to Pocahontas Co. to buy timber. They located on Williams River and succeeded in buying the timber of some 16,000 acres starting at what is known as Woodrow going down Laurel Creek to Williams River then back up the river by the meadows, Dutch Bottom, Black Mountain to Mt Lick Run and to the Barlow Hacking which is on the divide between Cranberry and Williams River, and extending to the High Rocks on the Stamping Creek side.

They were incorporated in 1903 and charter issued by Sec. of state Wm M. Dawson, authorized Capital stock of \$300,000.00 in this County were E.W, James and John Campbell and M.J Sweeney all of Pa.

The millsite selected was at what is now Campbelltown on route 219 and just across the Greenbrier River from the C&O R.R they had a single band mill which was set at this location, they built about 35 dwelling houses a large boarding house and a large store, Railroad tracks were laid from Campbelltown up Stony Creek to Woodrow down Laurel Creek to Williams River then up the river to Dutch Bottom and above to Mt Lick Run. They had 3 locomotives and 2 loaders the R.R was mostly built by Italians this was standard gauge track.

Every thing was made ready for operation their first camp #2 was just below the late Jim White homestead and now owned by Andrew Galford on Laurel Creek camp #3 was at Laurel Creek Bridge #4 at the Meadows where Fred Galford now lives #5 just above #4 #6 close to Black Mt Run #7 at Dutch Bottom #8 near Barlow Hacking #9 at Mt. Lick Run near the High Rocks or a total of 9 camps on the entire operation. Their R.R went by the name of Marlinton and Camden R.R.

The skidding was done with horses and as high as 55 head

were used at one time or Twenty six teams, and these were fine horses costing \$450.00 to \$550.00 for each team. Jacob O. Cogar of Edray above Marlinton was barn boss from 1905 to 1912 his job was taking care of the horses the dust forced Mr. Cogar to quit this job and he went to cutting timber, he was succeeded by Harper Turner of Lobelia camp number seven barn burned with quite a loss as they lost two car loads of hay and 1800 Bushel of oats. The skidding was very dangerous as they crippled lots of horses which kept a Veterinarian on the job a good part of the time doctoring the sick ones and treating and doctoring the crippled ones they had as high as eight and ten horses in the barns at a time with Dr. M. C. Smith treating them he at that time was at Millpoint and now a resident of Hillsboro, W. Va besides the ones the Veterinary took in to his barn to treat and care for and return to the camp as soon as they were able to work, these trips were all made on horseback a distance of 25 to 30 miles round trip through the mountains but the Dr. made the trip day or night in all kinds of weather crossing high water and going ^{over} very dangerous trails to reach the sick or crippled horses.

H. G. Baxter of Pa. was general manager, Jack Crookshanks and Lanty Cole of Pocahontas Co. were woods Superintendent and woods foreman, E. W. Campbell was Sec. and Treas., and John Campbell was president of the Co.

They had a Commissary at camp 4 and 7 so the men could get necessities with out coming out to Campbelltown each of these stores had a clerk. They cut all kinds of hard wood Spruce and Hemlock, and the best information I could get they cut between 90 and 100 million feet. ~~They paid their men \$1.75 per day contracted timber cutting for \$1.00 per M. \$2.50 per cord~~
for tan bark.

They paid their men \$1.75 per day contracted timber cutting for \$1.00 per M. \$2.50 per cord for peeling tan bark some of this bark was used locally the rest shipped to other tanneries in different sections of the U.S.

There were quite a few accidents and quite a few lives were lost, during the time of this operation, Charlie Bush was killed by a rolling log Vertner Seiford of Buckeye was killed by some log trucks that got loose and ran away hitting the caboose in which he was standing, Cecil Galford of Pocahontas Co. was killed by a falling tree, and an Italian working on the R.R. grade was blown up by dynamite parts of his body were found in the tops of

50 and 60 feet high.

They worked some 300 men in their woods, on the R.R., and on the mill. Pearl McCauley of Pa. was the blacksmith he did most of the horse shoeing after quitting time or at night so the teams would lose no time.

Campbell Lumber Company ~~/1111111111/~~ furnished employment to not only the men that lived in this territory but furnished employment to men that came with them.

This was a prosperous operation and it meant a lot to Pocahontas Co. and especially Edray District where this operation took place. When they had finished the operation back on the Williams River they sold the land off to different people some of it was cleared up and used for crop ground or put into pasture as for years Williams River was noted for its abundance of grass most of the farms on Laurel Creek are part of the Campbell Lumber Co. land. They sold ²⁰⁶⁰ ~~2100~~ acres to some stockholders in the Banf of Marlinton they formed a Co. and went by the name of Pocahontas Co. Coal and Land Co. and in 1935 they sold to the U.S Government, this was the Campbell cutting from the Meadows on Williams River taking in Black Mt, to the Cranberry side or Warren cutting by the High Rocks and extending to the Spruce Flats or a boundary of 8010 acres and on this is Black Mt, fire tower which is used each fall during fire season. On this boundary you find excellent trout fishing in spring and in fall abundance of good hunting turkeys, grouse, deer and bear besides the fur bearing animals and in this class you even find Beaver as there are beaver working in many sections of Williams River therefore Williams River and especially the Campbell land is the Sportmans paradise

Beaver Dam on Williams River got its name by Beavers being there years ago and building dams across the streams at that time.

In this section you find more of our typical mountain people than in any other section of the country the typical mountaineer of W. Va

Quite a few of the woodsmen settled on Williams River after the Campbell Lumber Co. had finished up and they are found there today some living in crudely constructed log houses and making part of their living by fishing, hunting trapping and digging ginseng.

Campbells finished up in 1914 thus ended one of the largest lumber operations of Pocahontas County. They shipped out all the lumber and moved all machinery and sold the houses and lots in Campbell ^{town} to C. A. Yeager of Marlinton, and he had a sale and sold them to prospective home

2-284
 seekers and today you find the town about the same as it was when it was occupied by families working for the Campbell Lumber Co. There is still a store ,blacksmith shop ,a church.school, filling station this town would be larger today than it is but due to the location expansion is impossible as you find Stony Creek on one side and a very steep hill on the other therefore growth and expansion is impossible however you find a clean little town with the population depending on employment elsewhere for their living.

Information-----	Lloyd Vanreenen	Marlinton,W,Va.	R.F.D.
	George Burgess,	" "	" "
	Jacob O.Cogar,	" "	" "
	J.O .Morrison	" "	" "
	Court Records	" "	" "

OFFICE LETTER

To Bruce Crawford, State Director Office		Date November 28, 1940
From Juanita Dilley	Office	Referring to
Subject Report for Oct. 4th page 6 Beard Mill	File	

Separate sheet for each subject. Omit all formalities. For office letters only.

In this report I said that this mill was believed to have been built by Josiah Beard, but since then I find in Will Book No. 1 page 239, Greenbrier County, John Beards will in which he wills the mill to his son Josiah.

The will is dated May 11, 1808, and reads in part "I bequeath to my son Josiah when he comes of age the Locust Creek Plantation and Mills. Item. I bequeath the rent of the Locust Creek plantation and the mills till Josiah come to age and the money arising from the sale of the place on the head of the dry run and also my part of Knob place to be equally divided amongst all my daughters."

According to Price's History John Beard was the pioneer Beard of the Greenbrier Valley and while his home was in Greenbrier he owned lands in Pocahontas. He came to the valley around 1770, and died in 1809. No doubt this mill was built before 1800 making it one of the oldest mills in Pocahontas county.

Pocahontas - 7

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry. Date 5/3/41
Research Worker Samuel G Smith Date Research Taken 4/26, 28, 29, 30/5, 1, 2, 3
Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed 5/2, 3, /41
Source Robert Hevener. Cass. W. Va. Date Filed _____
Calvin Price Marlinton. "
W. Va. Geological Survey. By Paul H Price.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.

Limestone is found in many sections of Pocahontas County the elevation

anging from 2200 feet to about 3,000 feet in which it is found, in Little Le

els District limestone is found on Locust Creek, Stamping Creek, the entire

section in and around Hillsboro from above Millpoint to near the top of Droop

Mountain, In Edray District it is found on Swago Creek, Dry Creek in many sect-

ions Elk River but the greatest deposit is found near Edray, limestone is found

in many sections of the Greenbank District but most of it is found near Dunmore

and on Back Mountain above Cass.

X Limestone was used for agricultural purposes as far back as the 80s.

but has been used very extensively for this purpose since about 1936 one of the

largest limestone operations in Pocahontas County is found operating on Back Mo-

untain above Cass, here Robert Hevener has a draw kiln that put out 850 tons of

lime in 1940 this limestone is found on elevation around 3,000 feet and its pur-

ity is 99% lime, the equipment used by Hevener consists of the follow an air com-

pressor, a large truck to deliver with, he employs 5 men in getting out the rock

this lime is sold to farmers in Pocahontas, Randolph and Pendleton Counties. This

operation was started in 1937.

In 1939 C.A Young of Buckeye erected two draw kilns at the Overholt

cave on the head waters of Swago Creek and in 1940 he burned about 600 tons

of lime which was bought by the farmers of Pocahontas County, he employs from 4

to 5 men and has one delivery truck.

Oh. I couldn't find anything.

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.

About 1937 Samuel C Bartholomew built a draw kiln at the foot of Drop Mountain on the farm of H.W Beard he operated here for two years lost his lease the quarry and in the meantime Lewis Gay had built a draw kiln in the Kee flats on the late John Gay farm so Bartholomew went in with him Gay did the burning and Bartholomew did the delivering they continued to operate this way until 1941 when Bartholomew took over the entire operation and today he is employing from 5 to 7 men keeps a truck busy day and night hauling coal from Greenbrier and Nicholas Counties and delivering lime to Pocahontas, Greenbrier and Nicholas County farmers, H.W Beard is now operating a draw kiln at the foot of Drop Mountain his output is sold locally to the farmers of Little Levels besides several hundred ton that has been applied to the late M.L Beard estate.

About 1939 William Browning built a draw kiln on the Browning farm on Locust Creek his output is sold in Pocahontas and Raleigh County as he gets most of his coal from the Raleigh coal fields. He employs from 2 to 3 men and has a delivery truck to deliver the lime to the farmers, this kiln was built by Hess Landis of Hillsboro. The Young kiln built by George Hevener of Edray.

About 1939 F.W Ruckman began to grind limestone into lime his crusher ^{head} operates at Stephen Hole Run his limestone is sold to the farmers of Pocahontas County. He employs from 2 to 3 men has a tractor and the lime pulverizer also a delivery truck besides these operations you find draw kilns on many farms as well

... I couldn't find anything...

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

where they burn on the ground with logs and coal using dirt to hold the heat on, at this time the manufacture of lime is one of the leading industries of Pocahontas County, this limestone will make history for its self for in years to come you will still be able to see the affects of where it was applied years before. The ground limestone is used in concrete work and today we have many of our better buildings and bridges that have our native limestone in them as well as the limestone that has been used in the construction of our hard surfaced roads, the hard top on the Seneca Trail or route 219 from Buckeye to Millpoint came from the head of Stephen's Hole Run as the Hill Construction Co. of Va. opened up this quarry. At Idray there has been a limestone quarry for many years and the town of Marlinton has opened up a quarry on the Flk Mt. road this limestone is used in the street work in the town.

Limestone has been used quite extensively in the many buildings made with brick made from crushed limestone and one of the largest of this make is the Grade School building at Hillsboro, the stone coming from a local quarry near Hillsboro and erected by the late W.W Kinnison of near Hillsboro. Limestone crushed at local quarries has been used very extensively in making forms for buildings, basements, foundations and in the many sidewalks that are found in the towns of Pocahontas County as the side walks at Hillsboro built in recent years have been made with crushed limestone coming from a quarry on Mill Run, this quarry is on the old Spice Run Railroad grade and this ledge of rock was known as Spice Run. I couldn't find anything else.

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.
the pigton roost. Pocahontas County is rich in limestone and the richest
sections are Little Levels District in and around Hillsboro, in Edray Dist-
rict at and near Edray, on and near Cave Creek at Buckeye and on Back Mt.

above Cass in the Greenbank District some testing as high as 99% pure lime.

The cave at Stevens Hole Run was the home of Steven Sewell for several ye-
ars and is now a point of intrest for tourists for here you find a high li-
mestone cliff in which is the above cave, many springs coming out of the roc-
ks and all around are Spruce, Hemlock and Cedar trees which makes this a point
of intrest to tourists and this could be developed to one of the leading pla-
ces of intrest in Pocahontas County.

Limestone and its products are now and will be the leading industry
of Pocahontas County for years to come as it is just in its infancy.

Pocahontas County has many outcroppings of Marble all on the Nor-
th Western side of the Greenbrier River, this marble crops out at about 2600
feet starting at Droop Mountain and extending to Back Mt. in the upper end of
the county. In the vicinity of Hillsboro and the head of Stamping Creek we ha-
ve marble of a thickness of from 25 to 40 feet these are in color from red to
maroon to a pinkish tinge and from that to the various shades of gray, this gray
stone could be used as a building stone, the brighter colors will produce st-
ones for ornimental purposes. Samples have been taken out by the C & O R.R.
It is hoped some monument company would become interested and so far
so. I couldn't find anything.

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
only interest shown was by a monument concern down in Georgia, when our
state capitol was being built it was hoped Pocahontas County could supply
the marble to build it with serious consideration and sampling ^{was} but due to
lack of tests ~~as to stability~~ and last it was decided to drop the marble qu-
estion in Pocahontas County for that purpose, but the future for the developm-
ent of marble in Pocahontas County looks bright. ✓

Building stone of sandstone formation suitable for building and maso-
nary construction is found all along the Western side of the Greenbrier River
the most that has been quarried has been used in bridge abutments building fo-
undations and steps where durability and abrasive resistance are important. All
the C & O Railroad bridge abutments were taken from sandstone quarries along the
Greenbrier River among these is the Knapps Creek Bridge, the Watoga Bridge and
others the best of sandrock formation for dimension stone is the Broad Ford
Sandstone. Sandstone building rock are found in the walls of the Bank of Marlin-
ton building *were quarried near Marlinton.*

Sandstone is found in great quantity on the Northern end of Droop Mt.
this section is known locally as "Rattlesnake Den here you find massive rock
covering several acres many of these rock have been used in the buildings of
Watoga State Park, in towers and other buildings at the Droop Mountain Park al-
so in administrative buildings at the Federal Prison Camp on Cranberry (To be
continued)
inf. Robert Hevener-Cass. W. Va. --- Calvin Price Marlinton. W. Va.
and from county reports of Poca. Co. In W. Va. Geological Survey. by Paul H Price-

ed. I couldn't find anything more.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 4/1/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 3/22,26,27,28,29,31

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 4/1/41

Source Will be given when bal.

Date Filed _____

of report is submitted. which will be in a few days.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
The St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. started buying white pine timber in
Pocahontas County in 1874, this tract was bought from the Greenbrier Lumber Co.
for \$50,000.00 and comprized 2,185 acres and laying on Sittlington Creek, Deer
Creek, Peters Mt. and Greenbrier River running with the lines of Isaac Moore &
John A Warwick and with the road to Greenbank and the Sulphur Spring and ext-
ending to the lower end of Browns Mt. some of this timber was located on Little
Creek. In 1878 they bought a small tract from Isaac & Alcinda Moore and locat-
ed on Sittlington Creek & Thomas Creek and adjoining the lands of Archibald
McCalister on Peters Mt. In 1882 they bought the white Pine on 176 acres from
William F and Mary F Arbogast this tract was formerly owned by Robert C Warwick,
and in the same year they bought the pine and other timber on 5,183 acres this
was the Lockridge and Geiger tracts in Pocahontas Co, and in Bath Co. Va. and the
the J. P & Nancy Moomau lands that joined the lands of Lucy Taylor and Claybourne
Ashford and in 1883 they bought a tract of 351 acres from Henry and E. F Buzzard
his wife and located near Huntersville W. Va. also in 83 a tract from Jacob and
Mary Kerr situated on Deer Creek. and in 84 they bought timber in Allegheny Mt.
that layed in both Va. and W. Va. also in 84 a tract of 740 from George H McLaughlin
Thomas Creek also a tract on Cochrans Creek from Flijah and Mary May this was
t of the land conveyed from the state of Va, to Daniel, Joseph and Peter Moore.
in 1885 a tract of 30 acres from John and Minnie Driscoll and laying on Kna-
co. I couldn't find any more

Commerce And Industry. S.G. Smith. page 2 St. Lawrence Boom - Pocahontas Co.
Creek and in 1886 bought a tract known as the John Tracy land also a tract known as the George Siple land. a tract known as the James T Lockridge tract, and another known as the Spice Run tract and owned by Sherman Clark total in these tracts 3,140 and in 1889 they bought a tract of 590 acres and laying on East branch of the Greenbrier River from F.C Rohsbaugh of Grant County, this being a part of a tract that was granted to Henry Phillips by the state of Va. in 1795 there was 590 acres in this tract. also in 89 a tract of 164 acres from Jacob and Rachel Sheets located on west side of Greenbrier River. also in 89 a tract of 1505 acres from Samuel and Tame Cooper and known as the George Burner land and in the same year a tract of 60 acres on Back Allegheny Mountain from Thomas Hugh McLaughlin, and in the same year 89 a tract of 1,765 acres from Isaac P Boggs the timber laying on ~~XXX~~ both sides of the East branch of the Greenbrier River between Poca and Falls Mts. also in the year of 89 a tract of 901 acres from Jacob B Pyles and his wife Sarah, Henry Pyles, Noah and Alcinda Alderman, Isaac N Coulter and his wife Nancy, Lemuel J and Mary Pyles, George and ~~Mary~~ ^{Mary} Boggs, D.W and Hester Alderman, Alvin and Annie Burr, and Joseph B.B Pyles and located on Beaver Creek. and bought from George M Sheets a tract of 34 acres on Allegheny Mt. also a tract of timber on Sittlington Creek from William H Cackley, and in the same year a tract of 390 acres on East prong of Greenbrier River from Lee And Rachel Burner, and in the same year a tract of 776 acres laying on Douthards and Cochrans Creek from E.A and Emma

CO. I couldn't find any more

Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. S.G.S. Pocahontas Co. page 3-
with, and in the same year a tract of 1515 acres from Samuel and Tame Cooper
of the state of Maryland, this land was known as the Lee Burner land and was
located on North Fork of Greenbrier River, and in 1890 they bought a tract of
130 acres from Henry and Mary Yoakum this timber was located on the headwaters
of the Greenbrier River, also in the year of 1890 they bought a tract of 80 ac-
res from A.W and Martha Rider on Cochrans Creek, and in the same year they bou-
ght a tract of 150 acres from Henry and Allie Flenner located on East prong of
the Greenbrier River, and again in the same year they bought a tract of 184 acr-
es on Cochrans Creek from Horace and Margaret Lockridge, and in the same year
a tract of 1988 acres on Allegheny Mt. from C.T Seebert part of this tract was
in Bath Co. Va. and again in 90 they bought a tract of White Pine and Hemlock fr-
om George I.M Hauck located on the west side of the wagon road leading from Hun-
tersville, down Beaver Creek to Millpoint joining the lands of W.T Perry and Ja-
mes P McComb and containing 410 acres. In the year of 1891 they bought 1760 acres
from Isaac Boggs, and in 92 a tract from H.M Moore on Sittlington Creek for \$ 1.
per thousand feet, also in 93 a tract of 820 acres located on Spice Run and sold
by H.A Holt of Greenbrier Co. and Alex Mathews of the same County this land was
conveyed to Sheldon Clark in 1849 by the state of Va. In 1894 they bought a tract
from Henry S Burr located on the headwaters of Laurel Run and adjoining the la-
nds of John Kellison, Charles Burr and The Beaverlick Lumber Co. of Pocahontas Co.
this tract contained 124 acres & Burr received \$ 1.00 per thousand feet
CO. I couldn't find anything

91 In 1894 the St. Lawrence people bought all the merchantable timber on the Perry tract on Poplar Flats at 75 cts. per thousand from William C Alderman, this tract contained 400 acres and joined the lands of John W Smith, George Rider and Beaverlick Lumber Co, this timber was sold by J.C Arbogast as Sheriff of Pocahontas County to settle up the estate of Alex Rider.

In 1894 S.W Kelley and Andy Reed made tenancy contracts with the Co. to look after 4,645 acres.

In 1895 they bought a tract of White Pine from S.W Wamsley and known as the Hamilton lands this was sold by Cyrus Scott and Lorenzo Strader of Randolph County as special commissioners.

In 1895 they bought the White Pine on 230 acres located on upper waters of middle fork of Anthonys Creek in Greenbrier County and was part of the Swan survey of 17,500 .

In 1896 they bought the merchantable timber on 330 acres on the Huntersville road to the Greenbrier River from Peter D and Mary Yeager and Henry & Allie Flenner reserving two pine patches for fork handles & stock poles .

In 1896 they bought timber on 191 acres from the Sherwood Co. sold by Geo. F.M Hauck Pres. of Sherwood Co. this tract was in Little Back Creek and joined the lands of R.S Turk, Amos Barlow, Daniel O'Connell & J.C Lory.

In 1896 they bought the merchantable timber on 17,500 acres from the Sherwood Co. this timber layed on Anthonys Creek conveyed by O.W Ruckman to Geo. F.M

Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. S. G. Smith. Pocahontas Co. Page 5-
ack, and 18.500 acres known as the Swan Survey on Cochrans Creek, Anthony's Creek
Greenbrier Co. & Bath Co. Va.

In 1897 they bought a boundary of 1,685 acres on the West side of the
Allegheny Mountain and extending to Knapps Creek and formally owned by Andrew
Herold and John Driscoll but sold to Porter & Margaret Kinports this joined the
lands of A. W. Moore, I. B. Moore and F. Dever. and another tract of 1861 acres and
not far from Sugar Camp Run.

In 1899 Mary A. Holt sold a tract of 800 acres on Spice Run and another
tract of 870 acres on Laurel Run formerly owned by Sheldon Clark and H. A. Holt
deceased. also in the same year this Co. bought a tract of 1760 acres from
Isaac and Rachel Boggs, this timber layed on the East Branch of Greenbrier
River, Boggs lived in Pendleton Co.

In 1901 they bought a tract of 198 acres from J. H. and Jennie Buzzard
this timber was on Douthards Creek and joined the following farms Virginia
Alderman, Sherman Kincaid. Also in the same year D. W. S. Alderman sold them tim-
ber on Douthards and Anthony's Creek in the amount of 396 acres. And in the
same year they bought 396 acres from Walter F. Alderman this was the Bradshaw
lands and apart of the Solomon Alderman lands.

In 1901 Sherman and Ella Kincaid sold ~~and~~ them two tracts the first
containing 300 acres and in past years was conveyed by William Bradshaw to
Timothy Alderman about 1870, the latter tract contained 198 acres and was on

Free And Industry. S.G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.
St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. Page # 6-
Douthards Creek the former on Big Run and Brushy Mountain.

In 1903 they bought a tract of 198 acres from Dan and Sue O'Connell on Douthards Creek and in 1904 198 acres from J.H and Jennie Buzzard also on Douthards Creek, and in 1905 a tract of 202 acres from George and Luzerna Huntley and in 1909 a tract of White Pine from Charles G and Mary Tracy.

The St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Company began operating in Pocahontas Co. about 1874 and continued until about 1912 or 13. their circular mill was located at Ronceverte in the bottom between the river and the C & O R R. The president of the company was Thomas J Shrylock.

They did most of their lumbering by contract and among them were the following John Peters, Whiting Brothers, Judge Huntley and Son George, Denning & Whiting and later Smith & Whiting, Dan O'Connell besides the subcontractors and J.D William Driscoll and Sullivan and Colonel Cecil Olay took contracts from the main contractors.

In 1896 John Peters took a contract from the St. Lawrence firm to operate timber on Laurel Run this was mostly White Pine and coming from what was known as the Wallace timber, this boundary was to be operated during 96 & 97 and it was estimated there was 2 million feet on the stump, Peters was to cut, peel and slide and stamp the logs and get \$7.00 per thousand when delivered to the boom at Ronceverte or Caldwell.

The main contractors were Smith and Whiting, but prior to this it was Co. I couldn't find anything much.

Denning And Whiting but Denning withdrew and Captain A. F. Smith took his place and continued to operate until the job was completed as Smith & Whiting, they were from Pa. During the time Denning & ^{James} Whiting operated which was about 1888 to 93 they worked 15 teams and from 50 to 75 men besides the teams they hired, at this time they were operating on Laurel Run and to the divide on Beaver Creek and cutting principally White Pine, which was cut skidded and put in a slide worked to the Greenbrier River and drove to Ronceverte to the St. Lawrence mill.

About 1895 Smith & Whiting were operating on Laurel Run they employed about 110 men had 15 teams of their own besides the ones they hired among them were the following, Nick McCoy, John Cleek, James Jordan, William Wade, Jesse Curry they worked day and night most of the time which was very hard and dangerous work, they received \$4.00 a day. They had a big camp and John A. Sheets was the cook. The St. Lawrence brand was the figure 7 inside a square which had to be stamped on each log before it was put in the river ready for the drive.

Smith & Whiting were operating on Beaver Creek 1890 and Gus Christer subcontracted from them to cut skid and drive down Beaver Creek to Knapps Creek and from there into the Greenbrier River. George McComb took a contract from Christer in this same territory.

Continued to next report.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. 2nd. part.

Subject Commerce & Industry, Lumber

Date 4/5/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 4/2,3/41 & before

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 4/4,5/41

Source Howard Underwood & R. L Syms
Huntersville. W. Va.

Date Filed

H. J Barnes & John Buckley. Buckeye, W. Va. James Jordan. Millsboro, W. Va.
Calvin W Price and Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va. & J. C. Morrison Marlinton.

E. O Hayes. Millpoint. W. Va.

Jake Simmons & Edgar L Smith. Watoga. W. Va.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.

About 1884 John Driscoll of Pa. took a contract from the St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. and operated on Cummings Creek, these logs were floated to Knapps Creek by a splash dam that was constructed at the Isco Alderman farm on Cummings Creek, and from Knapps Creek they were drove into the Greenbrier and to Ronceverte.

Ben O'Connell had a contract during the operation of the White Pine in Pocahontas County his operations were on Oldham Run from 88 to 92, he had a camp at each end of the slide and stables for the horses as they used from 30 to 40 teams part were his own the rest were hired from farmers in the Levels District namely John Cleek, Poe Weiford, Tom Burgess, Jesse Curry, and Ellis McCarty besides the ones he hired from Anthonys Creek. Charlie Ramsey was head cook. They used a slide on this operation, which cut out several million feet.

His next job was next to Middle Mountain near Rimel, his camp was on Southards Creek.

The Whiting Brothers Ed & Milt operated on Beaver Creek in 1913, 14 had a camp below Howard Underwoods, one near Pyles Mt. on Hokem Run and another on Jakes Run. They used 4 teams and employed about 25 men. The Whiting Bros. were from Pa.

In 1907 & 08 Judge Huntley and son George of Pa. took a contract from The St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. and operating at this time as the Sherw-

Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. Page 2 of Part 2. S. G. Smith Pocahontas County.
ed Co., this operation was mainly on Mouthards Creek here they had a camp
for the men and the horses as they worked from 150 to 200 men had 8 teams of
their own besides the ones they hired namely B. C. Hayes Frank and Garfield,
Ben Campbell George and Everett Alderman, and Andy Lightner. They built a spl-
ash dam near the head of the creek to make a tide to carry the logs to Knapp-
s Creek to be drove on to Ronceverte.

Otis Warwick was head cook with Clarence Jordan as his assistant,
Jake Carey was foreman on this job, in one drive they had over 13 million feet.

The slide had to be watered so the logs would run and among the men
that watered slide were the following John & Harry Jordan & Robert Hall of Hi-
llesboro,

About 1885 Smith & Whiting were operating on Cummings Creek near whe-
re John Lee now lives, at this operation they used 6 & 7 teams of horses and
employed from 60 to 70 men, and had a log engine that they used to haul the logs
to Knapps Creek, this engine was fired on wood most of the time as about the
only coal at that time was on Briery Knob, which was a long ways off but coal
from here was used by Smith & Whiting during their operation in the White Pi-
ne operation on Laurel and Oldham Runs.

About 1893 John Peters took a contract from this company on what th-
ey called at that time Klondike Hollow as it layed to the North and was very
cold, this was on the right hand prong of Island Lick Run, he employed many out-
co. I couldn't find anything

St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. S. G. Smith. Pocahontas Co. COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

men and their teams the following were some of them Edgar L Smith & George
 of Watoga, Millard F Ruckman, Lee & Frank Moore, & John Cleek of Millpoint
 they built slides that extended in to the mountains for 2 & 3 miles these
 had to be kept watered so the ice would make the logs run faster, from the
 slides they were put in Kinnison and Laurel Run and to the Greenbrier River
 to be drove to Ronceverte. Peters also operated below Durbin for this company.

John T Dixon took a contract from this company at at Laurel Run, at Dee-
 creek, and Cass.

Tom and Jack Crookshanks of Pa. took a contract and operated on the head
 of Laurel Run at Burr Valley on the John Burr place, these logs were taken down
 Laurel Run by train and put into the Greenbrier near Beard. W. Va.

Harry & Frank Harper had a contract their logs went down Anthony's Creek,
 they sub-contracted from Smith & Whiting. They had a camp and used 3 & 4 teams.

As in all other sections of our country lumbering preceded agriculture, some
 of our early settlers came for timber, some for the wildlife that roamed the
 hills while others came to make homes, from the high mountain peaks some of the
 settlers might have looked down upon the rolling hills and the fertile valleys
 covered with timber and on the east side of the Greenbrier covered with White
 pine, as 75% of the timber on the east side was softwood, to operate and manuf-
 acture this timber the St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Company installed the largest
 mill to be found in this section or in fact in the United States at that time

mill was installed at Roncoveite and during this operation this mill produced something like 800 million. The St. Lawrence people harnessed Greenbrier River with dams, booms etc. and several paralleling canals in which to catch, sort and store endless millions of logs these having been cut up the river and drove down, this operation was known as the White Pine days and today we find settlers in Pocahontas County that came to this county from other sections of the state from other sections of the United States and many came in here from Canada during the operating of the White Pine, married here and today we find many families in Pocahontas County that their father or grandfather were the pioneers in the opening up and developing of our greatest resource ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ our timber in which this company operated over something like 55,000 acres and extended from the Greenbrier County line to the head of the Greenbrier River. This operation furnished employment to our many people as well as a drawing card that brought in settlers from outside the state and as the land was cleared of its timber the more level lands were taken for agriculture and so today when traveling through this vast territory you see many farms with waving grain that once upon a time produced some of the best White Pine timber that was taken out of this section, but today we find several thousand acres of this vast White Pine forest land that has been bought by the U.S. Government for reforestation purposes this is particularly true with the Buckley and Pyles Mountain area along with with the chain of mountains from the Greenbrier Co. they disappeared ~~XXXXXXXX~~

to the head of the Greenbrier River as the Monongahela National Forest takes in thousands of acres of this the once White Pine section also the Seneca State Forest near Danmore is part of the White Pine territory.

X The men that operated this White Pine had to endure all sorts of hardships worked long hours in deep snow in the woods and on the drives they had to work long hours often getting wet and this driving was very dangerous and many men were drowned besides the ones that received broken legs and lost limbs due to being crushed in the jam of logs in the river often in the icy water up to the waist for hours, if the logs lodged they were dynamited and set moving again. The men that worked in the White Pine were of the sturdy pioneer type, the character that was ^{marked} in frontiersmen while laboring in the White Pine woods among strangers with hardships dangerous work and working and staying in an isolated section has left its impression upon the civilization of today as they were of the sturdy pioneer type some of which married and settled in some of the White Pine territory. Thus the passing of one of Pocahontas Countys largest lumber operations and the largest soft wood operation.

This lumber was shipped from Ronceverte to many of our larger cities some worked into ceiling other for siding and the larger timbers for framing that were used in the many buildings that were being built at that time all over the country, as this was virgin forest and cut millions of feet of first they disappeared and
no, I couldn't find anything such white.

Force & Industry. S.G Smith Hillsboro. W.Va. Pocahontas County.

Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co - page 6 of part 2-
made lumber which found a ready market. This operation meant a lot to Pocahontas County as it furnished employment to our many woodsmen and it was from the sale of timber and employment that helped develop Pocahontas County to its standard it has today as it has always ranked high in the growth, manufacture and sale of timber and its products.

They cut down the White Pine trees.
Broke and rafted them away to the mill,
Twas in the days of the White Pine,
That they cut down our evergreen trees. S.G.S

Information-Howard Underwood Huntersville. W.Va.

Robert Lee Syms.	"	"
H.J Barnes	Buckeye.	"
John B Buckley.	"	"
James Jordan	Hillsboro.	"
Calvin W Price	Marlinton.	"
J.C Morrison.	"	"
B.C Hayes.	Millpoint.	"
Jake Simmons.	Watoga.	"
Edgar L Smith.	Watoga.	"
Court Records.	Marlinton.	((

About 1890 to 95 a party of men cut some logs along Cheat River and rafted them to Point Marion Pa. a distance of between 250 & 300 miles and when they landed them there the logs were nearly worn out from bumping rocks along the way as this route was very rough with high falls and deep gorges.

Inf-John and Jay Buckley. Buckeye. W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce And Industry December 7 1940

Research Worker Samuel G Smith Date Research Taken Dec. 4th & 5th / 40

Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed December 6/40

Source George Williams
Court Records Date Filed 1940

This report was rather hard to get and some time was spent at the court house trying to verify the dates.



In 1902 George Williams of near Lobelia,Pocahontas County,W,Va bou-

ght a circular saw mill,his first operation was a set on Caesar Mountain for S.J Payne of Hillsboro who had bought a tract of timber from Sam & Sabina Wamsley for \$175.00 and they received in payment one horse at \$125. and a buggy at \$50.00 this contract was written August 4,1902.

325.000 was cut at this set and upon completion moved to Seebert.

His next set was also for S.J Payne and the mill was set at what was known at that time as Carter Siding which is just below Seebert,W,Va the timber having been bought from many different people of Seebert and the surrounding terretory.This operation started in April 1903 and run to May 1904.

Camps were built to take care of the men and barns were built to stable the horses,as Payne had one and two teams there most of the time beades the horses of Ellis McCarty of Hillsboro and K.O Wade of the Wade corner which is a section at the top of the Seebert hill.

The lumber was laded in box cars of the C & O Railroad and shipped to many different sections,400,000 was sawed at this set and Williams was sawyer on all of his operations.

From Seebert the mill was moved to Red Lick Mountain to saw for Smith and Whiting they having bought this tract of timber from W.H Shearer who lived on the head of Dry Creek above Onoto. In the Company were Captain A.E Smith and Jim Whiting.

There was 378 acra in this bandary and bounded as follows starting at the head of Dry Creek thence to the Silas Barlow line then to the line of I.M Argast and with the lines of S.B Ilkins and H.G Davis and then

...almost as fast.

...I couldn't find anything much written

#2 George Williams Operations Concluded.---

This timber was deeded to Smith And Whiting March 21, 1906, they paid

\$1700.00 for the boundary from which they sawed 400,000 feet of boards there was two sets .Upon completion of this operation Williams moved his mill back to the Little Levels District and over Caesar Mountain to his next set.

Dr. J. D Thrasher farm and deeded by him to J. F and Effie Peck July 9, 1903.

The mill was set just under the top of Caesar Mountain on the Peck place and ready for operation, Peck had a team and did part of the skidding but he hired Harry and Frank Thompson of Millpoint to do part of the skidding.

John Boblett of Lobelia had the misfortune of having his hand cut off by the edger on this operation leaving him a cripple the rest of his life.

This operation took place in 1906 & 07 and they sawed 416.000.

#5-- The next set was for S.J Payne and took place on top of Caesar Mountain at the Dick Anderson farm and purchased from his widow Sally Anderson the farm is now owned by Wilford Bruffey.

This was operated in 1906 and 75,000 was sawed at this set.

#6--- In 1906 George Williams sawed two sets for S.J Payne on Rush Run the timber was bought from Ambrose Hill of near Lobelia.

#7-- In 1906 & 07 Williams sawed for W.W Kinnison on Bruffeys Creek
part of this timber was logged from Kinnison's own farm the rest he bought from near by farmers.

#3--- In 1907 George Williams set his mill on the Cass McCoy farm on
Bruffey's Creek and sawed a set for W.W Kinnison .Kinnison having bought
what timber there was on the McCoy farm ,which when sawed was used by
WILLIAM WILLIAMS / BRUFFEY'S CREEK / LAMBERTS / LAMBERTS / LAMBERTS / LAMBERTS

...almost as fast.

20. I couldn't find anything much written on this.

Commerce And Industry-S.G Smith,Hillsboro,W,Va.Pocahontas County.

----- George Williams Concluded-----

Kinnison in his carpenter work as W.W Kinnison contracted to build and constructed some of Pocahontas County's best and most expensive buildings among the m were the Methodist Church at Marlinton,W,Va. The Hillsboro Graded School and a residence in the Kinnison Addition of Hillsboro ~~1887/88~~ and the Bank Of Hillsboro Building these were all brick buildings and constructed by Kinnison a resident of Hillsboro and near Lobelia,so most of the timber he bought and had saved was used by him in the construction of buildings of some kind or other.

Information-----George Williams ~~1887/88~~ Hillsboro,W.Va. (R F D)

Court Records, Marlinton, "

they disappeared almost as fast.

Mr. I couldn't find anything much written on this.

Feb. 23, 1940

Nelle V. McLaughlin

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Pocahontas County
May 2, 1940

Ch. 4 Section 5a - 1

During the Industrial Period (1860-1910) the people of Pocahontas County repaired and reestablished their saw mills, grist mills, tanneries, and so forth, that they had established before the Civil War, then of course there were many new ones built and many of the old ones were under new management. These, however, were all small individual businesses just as they had been before the war. No great commercial industries were begun until 1876 when the St. Lawrence Boom and Lumber Company came into the county and began cutting the white pine, cherry and walnut and rafting it down the Greenbrier River to Ronceverte. Since Pocahontas was so abundant in these timbers, this became a very important industry. Practically all of the lumber taken from this county during the next twenty-five years was taken out in this manner.

While it became known that Pocahontas had small deposits of iron, and some marble nothing was done to develop an industry and no mineral rights were taken.

Since agriculture and grazing were the chief occupation and there was no coal, nor enough other minerals to attract corporations there was no struggle between the land owners and corporations. The land was still in the hands of the original owners or their families and was valued only for its timber, grazing and for the timber. Even yet many farmers continued to clear their fields and to roll the logs into piles and burn them not realizing that they were destroying what would have soon been worth a fortune to them.

As soon as the railroads were completed in 1901, the county began to improve for now, that transportation was available, lumber companies were anxious to open up this vast timber section. Lumber towns sprang up almost over night, but when the lumbering was done they disappeared almost as fast.

Oh. I couldn't find anything

There was once a man by the name of Henry Phillips who was looking over this land in the 1790. He engaged a surveyor, William Pooge of Marlins Botton, and surveyed 41,000 acres at the headwaters of Greenbrier River. This survey took in most of that rich timber country. About the same time a Randolph County surveyor made a survey of 31,000 acres for Richard Smythe which interfered, and lapped on the 41,000 acres.

Henry Phillips having acquired this land paid little or no attention to it, not even paying the paltry taxes. With other large surveys it lay idle and useless.

The legislature of Virginia finding that such large grants hindered development, evolved the law of forfeiture. So in the 1830's and 1840's they began to cut up these lands and sell them for the benefit of the school fund. The Phillips 41,000 acres was thus disposed of to the highest bidders. It brought \$212.00 which was about the cost of surveying and selling it.

In the 1880's there was a law suit over this land because of the surveys of Phillips and Smythe. But it seems that the Smythe surveys called for a cypress and no cypress could be found in these high mountains. The work probably should have been cippus meaning a set stone. At any rate, Pocahontas county wrested from Randolph County this large territory.

This threw to Pocahontas county a big boundary of spruce and hemlock forest country so rich in timber as to render it worthless for anything else.

On the titles based on this sale of forfeitures the land rose in value until it was worth something like \$5,000,000 in one day for the timber alone, and now that the timber has been cut is held at something like \$5.00 an acre for grazing.

In 1903-1915 when the heavy growth of timber was being operated a number of towns sprang up and flourished for a while and disappeared. Among them: Wilkell, Gertude, May, Brancher, Madeline, Olive, Nida, Winterburn, Burner and Oxley. The Coal and Iron Railway. What a vision of wealth and prosperity that name once conjured. Town sprang up and drummers walked the railroad from one town to the next when the trains did not run to suit them. The above mentioned towns occupied the sixteen miles of river and railroad which lies between Durbin and where Randolph County begins at the divide.

This is now a part of the cold and barren which lies in Pocahontas. Where as it used to look stern and wild, it now looks wild and naked.

From Pocahontas Times - 1918 by Andrew Price
The above towns were only a few of the lost towns of Pocahontas. During the lumbering days towns sprang up all along the Greenbrier River and than lost their importance or ceased to exist except in name, Sitlington, Clover Lick, Harter, Campbelltown, Stilwell. This was partly after 1910, however.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry Date 3/22/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith Date Research Taken 3/14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
1941

Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed 3/21, 22, /41

O.B. Curry, J.R. Guthrie & court records

Source Marlinton. W. Va. Date Filed

Jay And William Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.

Julian Arbuckle. Maxwelton. W. Va.

This Co. has all new men at present therefore had to contact former
employees and information was hard to get.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
West Virginia Pulp And Paper Co. Cass. W. Va.

The W. Va. Pulp And Paper Co. began operation in 1900 and have been operating practically steady since that time, the mill site was bought from Newton J Gum and at that time was being farmed by him.

The W. Va. Pulp And Paper Co. was made up by and with the following men John G Luke of Orange, N. Y and his sons William, now at Covington. Va. Al Luke, Charlie Luke and S. F Slaymaker and William Whitmer of Pa. Slaymaker had the selling of all lumber.

The general manager of this co. was F. P Shafer for a long period and the present mgr. is S. D Huff, R. S Hickman was general mgr. of the Co. store and Burke McCarty was assistant store mgr. The name of the store is The Pocahontas Supply which did an enormous business at one time as they had as high as 20 clerks besides the other stores at Spruce and Slaty Fork besides small stores at some of the coal mines.

This is a double band mill that cut about 75 to 80,000 a day when they were operating the best of their timber, they had 14 log engines and 3 of these were the largest Shay engines built at that time, they had 10 to 12 loaders besides the steam skidders that they used on Elk and other sections ~~XXXXXX~~ but at one time they had 27 camps and had about 10 teams to the camp therefore they had over 200 teams of horses or 400 head. They had a steam shovel and a ditcher.

Their R R was known as The Greenbrier Cheat And Elk River R R

or the G.O & E. with Robert Hivio as R R Supt. The railroad started at Cass went up Leatherwood to Spruce and there it forked went down Cheat River near Cheat Junction, the other fork leads to Bergoo, Slatyfork and vec, with a line up Flk River and in on Tea Creek by way of Red Lick Mt.

The mill foremans were William Anderson and Charlie Furman, the druggist was Harry Hill and at present store Mgr, E.C Smith was store Mgr. at Slatyfork, Jay Buckley was clerk at Slatyfork and run commissarys for the Co. at different places, William Buckley worked in the store at Cheat. The wood supts, were Sol McNeely, Heaston Payne ~~XXX~~ Judson Taylor and John (Jack) Crookshanks, lumber graders J.R Guthrie and Mark Wood Gum, the postmasters have been Dr. Joe Ayers, Lake Clark and James Moyers the present P.M, Merl Irvine conductor and train master, George Graham was in charge of the office R.W Fox bookkeeper and Leona Sheppard office worker, John Hannah G.O. & E .R.R. Elmer Duncan shop clerk train master and office man, Joe Graves yard foreman, S.B Nethkin run the Company ~~firm~~ and operated the meat market for several years but the present farm manager is George Waugh, George Anderson was shovel man for the R R and another George Anderson was assistant mill foreman, Yard foreman Hob Rose.

The first Company doctor was Dr. Julian Arbuckle he was one of Greenbrier County, leading doctors after he left Cass, the present Dr. is Dr. U.H Hannah and their veterinary was Dr. F.C Nickel.

The following were engineers on the G.C & E.R.R. some time or other George Williams, Cal Bradley, George Cromer, Ben Cameron, Sam Waugh, Frank Williams, Floyd Dorman, H.C Gilmore, Thurman Fitzwater, Pat Bradley, Charlie & Grover Craddock-Red Stanley, C.W Odell was train dispatcher. Frank Imes was conductor on Cheat. James Collison was time keeper for the woods and took orders for the camps. The sawyers were the following men Tim Kenealey, Jean Kepner, Homer Brown, Ray Ott, Blackie Calhoun, Robert Blackburn, Warren Shifflet, Joe Hannah was one of the first sawyers, and the present sawyers are Harry Miller and Oscar Sarson. Joe Wooddell is town police. Herbert Shafer master mechanic and shop foreman, their electric welder man is Chalmers Shrader.

The W. Va. Pulp And Paper Co. have operated over something like 110,000 acres ^{in Boone Co.} besides some in other counties and this acreage covered the most of the upper end of Pocahontas County, and took in the following territory, Cass, Back Mt, Cheat Mt, Gown Cheat River, Bergoo Creek, Slatyfork, Gaulley Mt, Elk River and to the Randolph County line and when they were operating from 1915 to 30 they employed between 2500 and 3,000 men that received from \$ 2.50 to \$ 4.60 a day (the high prices were during the war.)

Besides the Band mill at Cass they had a pulp mill at Spruce and they put out solid train loads of pulp that was shipped to Covington Va. to their paper mill or to Luke Md to a paper mill there and on March 10. 1940 they had a big ^{fire} ~~fire~~ at the Covington plant that destroyed several thousand dollars

worth of property and material, losing 10 million pounds of finished kraft and scrap besides the paper and two men lost their lives J.E Steeley plant Supt. and Walter F Linger mill chemist and dept. head were overcome with smoke and died of a heart attack.

During the war they had an Extract plant in the lower end of Cass at what is called the Y, and here they made khaki dye the supt. was A. Molton.

The population of Cass at the present time is 600 but back a few years ago it had a population of 22,00 and at that time was the largest town in Pocahontas County, Cass has about 400 ~~XX~~ Company houses a school for the white population also a school for the colored, 3 churches and a large hotel that would accommodate from 50 to 75 people that was under the management of Mrs. Jack Crookshanks and a Mrs. Heaster at different times they employed 4 or 5 girls and 2 cooks, besides this establishment they had private hotels and restaurants on the east side across the river, and it was on east side where the lumber hicks mostly put up and it was here that several murders were committed and was known as dirty street over here you found 2 or 3 stores a restaurant, a hotel and several privately owned houses.

The Co. had camps from Spruce to Bemis on the Western Maryland R R, most of the G.O & E R R was built by Italians and Austrians and these were known as the bohunk camps.

During their operations coal was discovered and mines were opened up on top of Gauley Mt. between Bergoo Creek and Slatyfork this mine was operated until 1940. another mine was opened up below Spruce and was called the Hopkins mine, another was the Linan mine just below the Hopkins mine, and about 1920 Big John mine and Deer Lick mines were opened up, this was about the time they were lumbering up Fishing Hawk Creek this coal was mostly used by the Co. in their trains and at the town of Cass. You find coal on many of their holdings and no doubt some day these mines will be reopened and new ones opened up.

The W.Va Pulp And Paper Company beyond a doubt had the largest operations of any Co. operating in Pocahontas Co. and today they own several thousand acres of land but have sold several thousand acres to the government for reforestation purposes, their farming operations are very extensive as they have farm lands from just outside of Cass to the Greenbank road and along Deer Creek and you find land in high state of cultivation and some of the finest barns that are found in this section of the State and in these they winter from 2 to 300 head of cattle and back a few years ago they produced over 1,000 lambs a year.

The W.Va. Pulp & Paper Co. Operations in Pocahontas County have meant more to the growth of the county than any other operation that has taken place here as they not only furnished employment to the people but have helped

greatly in the way of taxation besides the towns that have sprung up namely Cass, Slatyfork, and Spruce besides scattered houses at these coal mines at Hopkins mine, Linan mine, Deer Lick & Big John mines, at Spruce where they had the pulp mill you found hundreds of acres of spruce trees as this is a cold place snow getting 2 to 3 feet deep.

During their 40 years of operating at Cass it is estimated they cut 1,126,400,000 and about the same amount of pulp wood, most of the hardwood went to Luke Md. and it is estimated by one of their former lumber graders that they carried 16 million feet of lumber on the yards at a time. They had a planing mill and put out finished surfaced lumber in the way of siding, flooring and other dressed lumber that was mostly used locally in the county.

The Pocahontas Supply Co. store did a business of \$ 1,200,000.00 a year business when they were in the best of the timber and when business was good.

The mill burned in 1924 but was rebuilt at once.

Cass today is a thriving lumber town that has meant a lot to Pocahontas County as it made a market for all the surplus farm commodities of the surrounding territory, payed enormous taxes that helped our county schools and government and furnished employment to thousands of her citizens this was Pocahontas County's largest operation and the payroll of the W. Va. Pulp and Paper Co. was the largest of any in Pocahontas. The lumbering from about 1900 to 1925 was the greatest industry in the County but since that time the oper-

There have been smaller operations but the Government has bought thousands of acres of cut over land for reforestation purposes so in years to come it is hoped the lumber industry will be better than at the present time due to the reforesting.

The W.Va. Pulp And Paper Company hope to complete their operations at Cass in 2 or 3 years the present time they are just operating in order to furnish employment to the population of Cass.

Information - O. B. Curry. Marlinton. W. Va.

J. R. Guthrie. " "

Court Records. " "

Jay Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.

William Buckley. " "

Julian Arbuckle. Maxwellton. W. Va.

All the above worked for the Co. at some time or other but Arbuckle and his father was Co. Dr. for a time at Cass.

56
Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Second Ave.

1940

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 3/13/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 3/13/41
& 3/12/41

Typist Smith

Date Typed 3/13/41

Source James Forney. Marlinton. W. Va.
Court Records.

Date Filed _____

Some of the information was gotten before these dates but not completed
until above dates.



Commerce and Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

Williams And Pifer Lumber Co.

In 1917 was incorporated and L. H Williams was Pres. and Gen mgr.
A. C Pifer Vice Pres. and Dr. M. S Wilson Sec and Treas, all of Marlinton. W.
Va.

Their operations have been all over Pocahontas County and part of
Greenbrier as they operated in 1917 on Spring Creek in Greenbrier Co. this
was sawed by J. L Howard of Buckeye. and in 1920 they were operating on Lau-
rel Creek. 1917 on Elk . and in 1920 on Brushy Mt. Cummins Creek. Beaver Creek
and until 1926 they were operating in the Huntersville District but in 1929
they bought two tracts of timber from F. P Clark totaling 810 acres and in
1930 they bought a boundary of 60 acres of the John Gay est. on Bucks Run and
in 1931 they bought a tract of 158 acres on the Dry Fork of Stony Creek
from William D and Jessie Burgess of Laurel Creek. and since that time they
have had their circular mill set in the upper part of the town of Marlinton
and buying and trucking logs where ever they can buy any in connection with
this mill they run a planer and sell building material already surfaced and
ready for use.

When they were operating at capacity they used from 6 to 8 teams of
horses to do the skidding had a log engine and 4 or 5 log trucks when they were
operating on Laurel Creek and used from 3 to 4 trucks to haul lumber and logs.

Bert Roberts was their sawyer for quite a long time, and Alva Johnson
is the present lumber grader and has been for several years.

Besides their lumbering operations they have a large store, in which
they have their office, a general store a meat market with an experienced meat
cutter in Clarence Jordan. Ward Wimer store man assisted by hired help and be-
sides this they distribute Conoco gasoline and oil in Pocahontas and Randolph
County. this business was all built up from their lumbering operations of the
last 24 years.

Information. James Fornay. Marlinton. W. Va .
Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.

Feb. 23, 1940

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Second Ave.
Marlinton, W. Va.

-1-

Pocahontas

Chapter 4- Section 4- Part a

The first saw mill in the Greenbank Community was owned and operated by the pioneer Wooddells; Probably Joseph Wooddell, the Revolutionary War veteran, that settled on the lands of Thomas Cartmill and Abraham Ingram. Cartmill conveyed his land to Abraham Ingram on June 13, 1798 and Ingram conveyed to Wooddell about 1800. Ingram may have developed the water power for this mill. The lumber that finished the old colonial mansion house of Jacob Warwick at Clover Lick was sawed on this mill and was furnished by Mr. Wooddell about one hundred and twenty-five years ago. A tilt hammer was installed at this mill which was greatly needed by the pioneers in making tools and implements of iron and steel. This machine was used in drawing out and flanning large iron and steel for making wagon tires, horse shoes, shovel plows, bolts, nails and shaping out heavy iron work. Mr. R. W. Brown, who gave me the information on these first mills, thinks it very doubtful whether the people who now live in the town of Greenbank know that a machine of this kind, called the Tilt Hammer, was operated in this town. The sight of the old mill and tilt hammer is on the land of Henry Wooddell; the pit and embankments may be seen on the west side of the road between Martin Sutton's blacksmith shop and Henry Wooddell's house. The old mill race is now used for the county road. This mill was a great labor saver for the community and had its niche in the early development of the community.

Harmon Conrad of Frederick County, Maryland, purchased the William Taylor Grant from John Brown on August 3, 1799, and began to harness the water power of North Fork which was called Cartmills Creek at that time. His son, Solomon Conrad, who was a veteran of the War of 1812, after going through the war and being honorably discharged, took charge of the home place. About 1840, he built and operated an up and down saw mill until the close of the Civil War. In connection with the saw mill he had a dry kiln, and always had some of the very best white pine lumber to sell. In that day no log was sawed into lumber unless it was the very best. This mill was a great benefit in the development and advancement of the Greenbank community. The old mill site and the Solomon Conrad homestead, has been the home of O. L. Orndorff, a grandson, who in 1893 employed Robert J. Burns to reroof and weatherboard the old home; and Newton Ervin and Warwick Hudson to rebuild the chimneys. This is the oldest house in the Greenbank Community, having stood one hundred and fifteen years or more. It is on colonial style, with its massive chimneys, old time fire places, and spacious mantels. It is in a fine state of preservation and has the appearance of standing another century.

Along about the year of 1825 or 1830, John Yeager had erected a saw mill on Block run, a branch of North Fork, and built a dam across the run with rocks, which was a complete piece of masonry; the wall was about thirteen feet high and about two hundred feet long; the inside was

filled with clay and dirt at an angle of about one to one and a half. When the dam was full of water, it covered about an acre of ground. The venerable John E. Gum, when a young man, worked for Mr. Yeager and sawed lumber on his mill. He said that the dam was full of mountain trout, and that he would start the mill to sawing, then he would catch trout for ten or fifteen minutes until the mill had run the line; during the day he would catch a basket of fish and keep the mill running at the same time. This old mill site is about two miles from the Yeager Homestead and the Allegheny Battlefield, on the Block Run. The Yeager mill dam blocked the run; hence the name "Block Run". The North Fork Lumber Company in building their railroad tore down part of the wall to make room for their track. The line of the Monongahela National Forest passes through the old mill dam. This mill was a great help to the settlers on the top of the Allegheny Mountain. The finish lumber for the old log church on the Allegheny Mountain was sawed on this mill.

The first timber cut for export was cut just before the Civil War at Cass by James Atlee Price. This was sent down to Marlinton and sawed on an up and down saw mill about one half mile above Marlinton where River-side now is.

The North round out during the Civil War about the white pine in the Greenbrier Valley. Colonel Cecil Clay of New York, a friend of the Roosevelt family, came back to see about it. In 1876 he had cut and floated to

Ronceverte, the nearest railroad, a large amount of white pine.

The first circular saw mill and steam engine in brought to the Greenbank Community was in the year 1884. It was located about one hundred yards east of the county road on Dismal Run and was owned by a man by the name of Pain. The mill was operated by a man by the name of William F. Gum. The name Dismal Run came from the fact that the white pine and hemlock trees stood so thick that the sun could not penetrate the foliage of the trees and the place was so dark and gloomy that the early settlers dubbed it with the name "Dismal Run".

During the 80's and the 90's the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company at Ronceverte cut hundreds of millions of feet of white pine. All of this white pine was driven down the Greenbrier to Ronceverte. During this time they constructed a splash dam across Rosin Run and, when they had the logs rolled in, they turned the dam loose and floated the logs to North Fork, thence to the Greenbrier River and on to Ronceverte. They began to open the dam on the logs about the latter days of February and about the first of May, 1883, they completed the drive to the North Fork. About two million feet of white pine was driven down the Rosin Run by the splash dam system. This work was under the supervision of Alex McLain and H. A. Yeager. The old splash dam is on the lands now owned by J. B. Sutton. The St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company also cut

cherry, walnut, ash, and poplar, and floated it down the river on rafts to Ronceverte. They perhaps cut more cherry than all the other kinds of timber put together.

The rafting points were, Clover Lick, Stony Bottom, Marlinton, Buckeye, and Seebert.

Then the railroads came and the oak, pine, hemlock, and spruce, known as the "Northern hardwood mixture" began to be developed.

The first big company to come into the county after the railroad was built was the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company at Cass. After forty years, it is still in operation. For twenty-five years they sent out a train load of twenty-five cars to Covington daily. At one time there were three thousand men on their payroll. This is the only big operation in the county at the present time. They are doing a lot of flooring and finishing lumber. If anyone in Pocahontas County were to order flooring from Montgomery Ward & Company, it would probably have come from Cass. The West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company use modern forestry methods so as to provide for a continuous crop.

The best measured acre of spruce in the county cut 144,000 feet. This was at Mountain Lick Run on Williams River.

About 1904, the Cherry River Lumber Company started operating in the County. They operated for thirty miles through the county and are still cutting.

For a number of years there were ten thousand men at work on the various lumber operations. Pocahontas County

has produced more timber than any county east of the Mississippi River. About 1915, when lumbering was at its height, the population of the county was about twenty-two thousand persons. When most of the operations had cut out the population decreased ten thousand.

The following were saw mill towns with an average population of three hundred: Wildell, May, Gertrude, Burner, Nottingham, Thornwood, Watoga, Campbelltown, Stilwell, Reintown, Winterburn, Hosterman, Clover Lick, Warn Town, Raywood, Deer Creek, and Denmar.

Many hundreds of miles of railroad was in operation. All of the companies operating at the above named towns had railroads, some as much as seventy-five miles.

Besides these large operations, there were many fair sized ones.

The cut over land has been largely taken up by the United States Government for the Monongahela National Forest, which owns seventy percent of the area of the county. The State of West Virginia owns twenty-two thousand acres in state parks.

The largest land holdings in the county belonged to the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, the Cherry River Lumber Company, and the Pocahontas Tanning Company.

In reference to the operations of the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company which I mentioned on page four, the first white pine cut to be driven down the river to them at Ronceverte, was in the year 1882 and John Driscoll was the man who had the contract. The white pine was cut on the Moore farm at Dunmore. About a year later, Capt. A. E. Smith and James Whiting under the firm name of Smith and Whiting started cutting white pine on Laurel Run where Denmar now is. They cut here and on Knapps Creek for six or eight years and each year had ten million feet of white pine driven down Knapps Creek and Greenbrier River to the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Co. at Ronceverte.

Note There may have been a log drive in 1872. There was one in 1874. From 1876 to the last drive in 1908, they were annual events on the river.